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MARRIAGE.

At the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Hongkew, on the 9th of October, 1895, by the Rev. Father J. M. Louail, S.J., PETER LAURENCE, third son of the late PETER RAEBURN, of Aberdeen, Scotland, to SOPHIE, second daughter of THOMAS DEIGHTON, of Shanghai.

DEATHS.

On the 10th instant, at 1, Alveston Terrace, RISSIMA, infant daughter of PAUL and HELEN JORDAN, aged 8 weeks. [2107]

At Singapore, on the 18th ult., DUNSTAN ALDHEM MCINTYRE, youngest brother of Mrs. Woodfort, of Nagasaki, aged 23.

At Chinkiang, on the 6th October, 1895, CARL L. BETTZ, I.M. Customs Service.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 10th October, 1895, JAMES WRIGHT, late third engineer of the steamer *Sarpedon*, aged 26 years.

At 13, Peking Road, Shanghai, on the 11th inst., suddenly, CLAUDE A. REES, aged 53 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAIL.

The French mail of the 13th September arrived, per M. M. steamer *Salazie*, on the 15th October (32 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Mr. W. S. Ayrton, H.M.'s Consul at Tamsui, and Mr. R. W. Hurst, H.M.'s Consul at Tainan, have been transferred from the China to the Japan service.

A *coup d'etat* is reported from Korea. On the 8th inst the Tai-won-kun at the head of two battalions of troops forced an entrance into the palace at Seoul. Further details have not yet been received.

Japan has agreed to reduce the supplementary war indemnity for the evacuation of the Liaotung Peninsula to Tls. 30,000,000 and to evacuate the country within three months after payment. China undertakes to pay the first instalment of the war indemnity very shortly.

It is said that Sir Nicholas O'Connor, the British Minister to Peking, proposes to leave his present post at the end of this month.

Telegraphic intelligence has been received that the O. & O. steamer *Belgic*, which went ashore on the east point of Tokyo Bay, has been floated and taken to Yokosuka.

The Kucheng inquiry is believed to be approaching its termination. Consul Mansfield came down to Foochow to interview the Viceroy and as a result of the interview it is believed the obstacles hitherto thrown in the way of the Commission will be removed.

According to a Nanking telegram to the *N. C. Daily News*, the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung declined on the plea of sickness to receive a visit from Admiral Buller. Our contemporary learns that though the Viceroy was too ill to receive Admiral Buller, he rapidly recovered and was able to receive the Consul-General for Germany at Shanghai, Dr. Stübel, who called at Nanking on his way down, after concluding the arrangements for the German concession at Hankow.

The Tsungli Yamèn, the *N. C. Daily News* says, has memorialised the Throne on the necessity of appointing a special Minister to France, a post hitherto held by the envoy at the Court of St. James, who, as a measure of economy, acts in the dual capacity of Minister to Great Britain and France. The Emperor has consented to the Tsungli Yamèn's recommendation and, according to a telegram received at Shanghai, Liu Ch'ih-siang, the late acting Taotai at that port, will very likely be the person chosen for the new post. It seems also possible that a special Minister to Russia will also be appointed—a post now held by the envoy at Berlin.

Mr. Wharton Barker, whose name was brought into prominence some years ago by the famous Count Mitkewitz of concession fame in China, arrived at Shanghai on the 5th inst. by the *Empress* boat from Vancouver. He is accompanied by a railway engineer, Mr. Garland, and it is understood, the *China Gazette* says, that he is in the exciting but sadly disappointing railway quest to lay lines to the uttermost confines of the Chinese empire. There are about a dozen Richmonds on the railway field in China just now, and the joke is that beyond mere talk the Chinese do not seem to have any serious idea of realizing the hopes of our enterprising friends the railway promoters.

The Japanese Cotton Spinners' League has addressed a circular to the Chambers of Commerce throughout the country, we learn from the *Japan Mail*, requesting their co-operation for abolishing the import duties on cotton. A petition on the subject has been presented to the Diet more than once, but the measure has not yet received the approval of the country's legislators. Its importance has been increased ten-fold by the treaty of Shimoda, since Western capitalists are now able to compete with the Japanese mills on easier terms than before, and the result may be highly injurious to Japanese spinners. The co-operation of the Chambers of Commerce is earnestly solicited by the framers of the circular, and it is believed that they will readily comply, for the majority of their members are known to be in favour of the proposed reform.

At date of latest advices from Formosa Kageo had been captured by the Japanese, who had advanced almost to Tainanfu. The Japanese fleet had also appeared and a bombardment was momentarily expected. The British Consul had been using his good offices to arrange terms of surrender, but the Japanese demanded that the surrender should be unconditional, and to this Liu refused to assent. The foreigners were all on H.M.S. *Pique*.

Tang Hsiao-yi, ex-Acting Chinese Resident at Seoul before the late war, returned to Shanghai from that city on the 4th inst. Mr. Tang, the *N. C. Daily News* says, has been in Korea lately arranging all outstanding matters of the Chinese Legation left unsettled at the time of the Japanese attack on the Legation in July last year. A number of Chinese vagrants in Seoul and Chemulpo who have been "loafing" in those two cities ever since the war were also deported back to China by Mr. Tang. Having completed all matters relating to the former Legation at Seoul, Mr. Tang is now back again in China. It is a pity that Mr. Tang has not been re-appointed to Seoul, as the ex-Resident Ynan's successor, for China needs a "strong" man and one well acquainted with the Korean King and mandarinate to represent her at the present crisis.

The General Managers of H. G. Brown & Co., Limited, in their report for 1894, express regret that the accounts continue to show a disappointing and unfavourable result, the working account showing a loss of \$19,429, whilst the amount at debit of profit and loss account, including the sum of \$38,232 brought forward from 1893, now stands at \$66,204. Early this year a suggestion came from the shareholders resident in Manila that it would be advisable to transfer the management to that place, and, it being fully realised here in the light of events during the past few years since Mr Brown gave up the management that adequate control could not be exercised from this end, this suggestion was gladly availed of as far as practicable, and a committee of management has been entrusted with the direction of the Company's affairs in the Philippines, the gentlemen nominated by the Manila shareholders as members of same being Messrs. E. H. Warner, J. Sloan, and J. C. Donaldson-Sim.

The report of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited, shows that the net premium collected in 1894, after deducting returns and reinsurances, amounts to \$1,585,288. After providing for a bonus of 25 per cent. on contributions paid in April last, there remains at credit of working account a balance of \$439,177. From this sum the directors recommend the payment of a second bonus of 6 per cent. on contributions, a dividend of \$12 per share equivalent to 48 per cent. on the paid-up capital of \$25 per share, and an addition to the reserve fund of \$80,000, raising the reserve to \$1,050,000. The balance remaining of \$161,025 they propose to carry forward to meet liabilities and claims still outstanding, and thus close the account for the year 1894. The position of the Society for the present year, as far as it can be ascertained, is as follows:—Balance of working account to the 30th June, \$683,236, add estimate of premium to 30th September, \$410,000—\$1,093,236, estimate of losses to pay \$336,000—\$757,236.

WHAT ENGLAND SHOULD DEMAND.

The progress of negotiations between the British Minister and the Tsung-li Yamen in reference to the recent atrocities at Kucheng, the missionary outrages in Szechuen, and the accumulated breaches of Treaty rights by the Chinese authorities is slow—we may say very slow—when compared with the pace made by Count INOUE when arranging the terms of the Treaty of Peace with LI HUNG-CHANG. There was then of course an incentive to despatch for the veteran Grand Secretary, since the cost of the war was great and further delay could only increase the difficulties of China. Far otherwise is it with the Tsung-li Yamen at the present moment. They have fallen back upon their traditional policy of procrastination in the belief that by perpetual delay they will tire out the patience of the enemy, and in the hope that something meantime may turn up to embarrass and perplex Great Britain. Hence it is that they alternately cringe and cave in and bluster and evade. Brought for a moment to the point by the gathering of the British fleet in and near the Yangtze they have at last consented to degrade LIU PING-CHANG, the peccant ex-Viceroy of Szechuen, and an Imperial Edict has been reluctantly issued depriving him of his rank and declaring him incapable of ever again bearing office. This is all very well so far as it goes, but an effort was immediately made to rob the step of what deterrent influence it might possess by asserting that it was taken independently of the demand of the British Government. Meantime, too, the Imperial Commissioner in Fukien, working in league with the Viceroy of that province, was doing his best to render the inquiry at Kucheng a complete farce, with the result that the Commission will no doubt be formally dissolved as useless. The resort to their ancient tactics therefore has so far been made for the advantage of the Chinese Government.

Surely Lord SALISBURY is not going to rest content with such a dubious success as the degradation of an already disgraced official! His demands must embrace something more than this, though as yet little has been disclosed concerning the terms proposed. The French assert that the terms of the British ultimatum were the degradation of the ex-Viceroy of Szechuen within a fortnight and the payment by China of an indemnity of £1,940,000. The German Press allege that the British demands include the cession by China to England of the island of Chusan. Not a hint of such a demand has yet reached the British Press, though it has been publicly advocated; nor has the amount of the indemnity for the relatives of the deceased and for re-erection of the mission premises destroyed in Szechuen, Fukien, and elsewhere been mentioned. That something more than the decapitation of a few coolies, the payment of a few thousands of dollars

for the property destroyed and the lives sacrificed, and the degradation of the most heinous of the higher mandarins, is required before justice is satisfied and a lesson read to the Chinese Government, is universally admitted. The massacre at Kucheng is but one item in the long bill that has been accumulating against the Chinese Government since the last account was very inadequately settled by the Chefoo Convention, wrung from them by Sir THOMAS WADE twenty years ago. The British Government is proverbially slow to act, and will at last, as a rule only ask for a mere instalment when they might insist upon payment in full. It is to be hoped, however, that on this occasion Her Majesty's Government will heed the national desire, and not only make their demand but take neither excuse nor abatement. It is impossible to raise any plea of extenuating circumstances on behalf of the Chinese Government. They have sinned knowingly; they have systematically shielded offenders and have tacitly encouraged crimes against the stranger within their gates. Having inflicted injury after injury, they strenuously object to make any reparation beyond a monetary compensation, the amount of which they are always prepared to higgie over until the claimant is fain to abandon the claim in sheer disgust.

We hope, therefore, as we have said, that Lord SALISBURY has presented his bill to China and is prepared to exact all its items. It ought to include:—

- 1.—The adequate punishment of the instigators as well as the actual perpetrators of the missionary outrages and murders.
- 2.—A sufficient indemnity to cover all losses sustained by the destruction of mission property and to compensate the relatives of those murdered and the wounded for the injuries received.
- 3.—An indemnity to all British subjects having valid claims for losses caused by official misconduct or breaches of Treaty stipulations.
- 4.—The cession of the island of Chusan and its dependencies to Great Britain in perpetuity.
- 5.—The rectification of the boundaries of the colony of Hongkong by the cession to it of all the islands to the south as far as Gap Rock and of that portion of the mainland between the present Northern boundary of Kowloon and the head of Miao and Castle Peak Bays.
- 6.—The opening of the West River to foreign trade and navigation, the towns of Wuchow, Tsunchow, and Nanning being made Treaty ports.
- 7.—The opening of the Tungting Lake and of Changsha and Siangtan on the river Siang to foreign trade.

It would be well if yet another stipulation could be made, for the withdrawal of the Chinese Embassy from London until such time as the Chinese Government falls into line with the usages of civilised Powers and the EMPEROR officially and actually recognises the equality of other sovereigns. A deathblow should at once be dealt to the exaggerated pretensions of the Chinese for their sovereign and country. It is, we fear, too much to hope that the settlement with China will embrace all these points, reasonable and necessary as they appear, but we trust that the more important of them at least will be secured. Lord SALISBURY has but to insist upon his own terms and they will be conceded in the end, though a wordy struggle may first ensue.

OFFICIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE KUCHENG OUTRAGE.

A Shanghai contemporary, the *Mercury*, draws an interesting contrast between the treatment of the criminals arrested in connection with a case of burglary at Sinyang-hien and the perpetrators of the Kucheng massacre. In the Sinyang-hien case there was no murder committed; it was a case of simple burglary. Eleven of the men concerned in it came to Shanghai to dispose of the booty and were arrested by the Municipal police. Being sent into the native city for trial they were promptly convicted and executed, the interval between the commission of the crime and the execution being about six weeks. The Kucheng case, on the other hand, is still dragging on, although ten weeks have elapsed since the occurrence of the massacre. A few of the men alleged to have been concerned in the affair have had their heads struck off, as an instalment to satisfy the exigent representatives of Great Britain and America, but every possible obstacle has been placed in the way of a thorough and impartial trial of the case and the punishment of the really guilty parties. When the outrage occurred deep regret was formally expressed by the Emperor of China through his representative in London, but the after proceedings have made it abundantly clear that had it not been for the pressure of the foreign Powers not the slightest effort would have been made to bring the perpetrators to justice. The Government, had it dared, would have been only too glad to have sheltered itself under the fictitious plea of inability to cope with the Vegetarian Society, which was alleged to be very powerful and antagonistic to the Government. The power of the Society has been proved to be a myth, and as to its antagonism to the Government, it is much more probable that the high officials are in collusion with it. If this were not the case, why the attempt to screen the criminals and the facilities afforded to many of them to escape? The *Peking and Tientsin Times*, in an article which was quoted in our columns a day or two ago, summing up the evidence given at the Kucheng investigation arrived at the conclusion that most of the confessions were lies, that we have not yet touched or found one trace of the real organisers, the greatest culprits in this savage tragedy; and that the officials who so cloak and screen the deed they were responsible to prevent are not clean handed, but tremble lest their guilt should be revealed. These conclusions we fully endorse. If there is a burglary, in which natives are the sufferers, as at Sinyang-hien, the culprits are promptly punished, but when it is merely the massacre of half a score of foreigners, then the zeal of the officials is directed to the obstruction of justice, facilitating the escape of the murderers, and hoodwinking the foreign commissioners who have been appointed to assist at the investigation. It is of course necessary that the punishment of the instruments of the crime should be insisted upon, but the decapitation of a hundred coolies would have less effect in securing future immunity from outrage than would the effective punishment of one mandarin. The Kucheng Commission, being concerned simply with the punishment of the instruments of the crime, is calculated to do more harm than good, because it obscures the point of real importance, the punishment of the mandarins, without whose connivance or culpable neglect and indifference the outrage would never have occurred. The

mandarins themselves seem to think it is only heads we want, and on that basis they are willing to settle, provided any heads but the right ones will do; but as for doing simple justice and punishing those on whom rests the responsibility of organising the crime and superintending its execution, nothing could be further from their wish or intention. If there is to be any safety for foreigners in China it is imperative that the officials should be roused to a sense of their duties and responsibilities by the exemplary punishment of the Fukienese high officials as well as those of Szechuen. The punishment of the latter has already been determined on, but in the eyes of the Chinese the ex-Viceroy LIU PING-CHAN is degraded, not for outrages upon foreigners or in deference to foreign representations, but for other matters quite unconnected with foreigners, because he was already in disgrace. This makes it all the more necessary that the lesson should be driven home by the punishment of the Fukienese officials.

RAILWAYS IN TONKIN AND THE OPENING OF THE WEST RIVER.

M. ROUSSEAU, the Governor-General of French Indo-China, is about to proceed to France to present to the Chamber of Deputies the project for a loan for Tonkin of one hundred million francs and to defend the schemes for the various public works to which the loan is to be applied and which are required for the development of the colony. An interesting resumé of the programme is given by the *Avenir du Tonkin*. Concessions with reference to some of the proposed railways have already been granted to various French firms, but it is proposed that these shall be cancelled and that the work shall be let out by contract and executed under the supervision of the Public Works department. The existing line from Phulangthuong to Langson, of 0.60 metre gauge, is to be widened to a gauge of one metre, which is to be the gauge for the other proposed lines. The first of these, from Hanoi to Phulangthuong, will be about twenty-eight miles in length, another, from Langson to Nacham, near the Chinese border, will be nineteen miles, and another, from Hanoi to Namdinh, fifty-five miles. The plans for these lines have already been prepared and it is proposed that the work of construction should be commenced in February next and be completed by the end of 1898 at the latest. Another line from Hué to Tourane is provided for but it is not proposed to begin work upon it until 1899. In addition to making the railways above enumerated it is proposed to light and buoy the coast, to improve the port of Haiphong, and to make roads in the up-country districts. The programme seems a very practical and modest one and if carried out will no doubt lead to a great development of trade. A railway from Hanoi to Laokay has sometimes been spoken of, but it is not mentioned in the present programme. Steamers are now running on the Red River and the facilities they afford are apparently deemed sufficient for present trade requirements in that direction. A railway to Laokay would, moreover, be a much more costly undertaking than the other lines mentioned and if made would probably swallow up the bulk of the hundred million loan. Judging from present appearances, therefore, it does not seem likely that Western Yunnan will be tapped by railways from Tonkin for some time to come, and if the British Government at once undertake the

construction of a line from Burmah, of which there appears some prospect, they will be easily first in the field. As a commercial undertaking, however, the prospect of the line's proving a success is not very bright. The project is not nearly so important to trade as the opening of the West River, and the latter acquires additional importance in view of the projected French railway to Nacham. From the latter point there is water communication with the West River and the design is that the districts now served by that stream in Kwangsi and Eastern Yunnan shall hereafter draw their supplies through Tonkin. If the Chinese were to construct a railway from Pakhoi to Nanning, however, as has been suggested, it is probable the French line would get only a small share of the through traffic. But the British trader's interest lies in the opening of the West River. If steam navigation were permitted and the squeeze system abolished that route would still command the bulk of the traffic.

THE MILITARY CONTRIBUTION.

The inequality with which the various Crown colonies are treated in the matter of the military contribution is brought into even greater prominence under the new system of levying the mulct than it was before. Our friends at Singapore used to present their grievance in various aspects, as, for instance, that the contribution being so much and the strength of the garrison so much the cost per man to the colony was greater than anywhere else, that the lump sum was larger, that the percentage of the contribution on the revenue was greater, and that the garrison being maintained principally for imperial purposes the proportion of the cost thrown on the colony was inequitable. The argument that seemed to carry the greatest weight in support of the colony's case was that founded on the disproportion the contribution bore to the revenue when compared with the contributions of other colonies. Colonies with larger garrisons might pay less, but to that there was an answer, namely, that the protection afforded by the Empire was not to be gauged by the strength of the permanent garrison, which, on emergency, would be increased to any extent required. But to the argument that it was inequitable that one colony should have to pay a large percentage of its revenue while other colonies paid either nothing at all or only small percentages there seemed no answer nor have we ever heard of one being attempted. The percentage system, however, was not then in force, so that the inequality as between the paying colonies did not strike the popular mind very forcibly. A certain lump sum had been fixed in each case, and it was to be assumed that the amount bore some relation to the colony's supposed ability to pay. The fact remained, however, that some colonies had to pay much more heavily than others. When it was announced that the contribution was in future to take the form of a fixed percentage on the revenue it was supposed that all the Crown colonies would be treated alike and all ground for the complaint of unequal treatment be removed. The supposition turns out to be quite erroneous. No announcement has yet been made of the hitherto exempted colonies having been asked for a military contribution, and while the Straits and Hongkong are to pay 17½ per cent. of their revenue Ceylon is let off with 7½ per cent. and Mauritius with 5 per cent. How is this difference to be accounted for? It would

perhaps not be unreasonable that poor colonies should be let off more lightly than richer ones and that the percentage should be on a graduated scale, to be applied according to local circumstances. But it does not appear that any such scale has been decided upon or as much as thought of, nor can we imagine a scale which would work out to show such a difference as is made to appear between the Straits and Hongkong on the one hand and Ceylon and Mauritius on the other. The condition of the bulk of the population in the two former colonies is not so much better than that of the population of Ceylon and Mauritius that they can fairly be asked to pay a much larger amount of taxes, nor have their Governments any special sources of wealth which would justify the difference. The fact seems to be that the percentages under the new system like the lump sums under the old system have been arbitrarily fixed without any regard to abstract principles of equity.

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

The question of the appointment of a Medical Officer of Health to be attached to the Sanitary Board was again brought up at the meeting of that body on Thursday last. Dr. CLARK arrived some weeks ago, having been appointed at home to the office of Medical Officer of Health, but he has not yet been gazetted and so far as is publicly known has no legal status. The delay in making the official announcement is presumably to be accounted for by the pendency of the question whether Dr. CLARK is to be independent of the Sanitary Board or is to be an officer of that body. At Thursday's meeting Mr. EDE recorded in a minute his belief that "ours is the only 'Sanitary Board in existence that has no 'medical officer at its direct disposal' and a resolution was carried to the effect that 'a medical officer should 'be attached to the Board.' This was carried by three votes to one, Dr. ATKINSON, the Acting Colonial Surgeon, voting against it, and the Hon. F. A. COOPER, Hon. Commander HASTINGS, and Mr. EDE in favour of it. Mr. COOPER and Commander HASTINGS are to be complimented on having taken this independent course, which is opposed to the Governmental policy of depriving the Sanitary Board of all executive power and reducing it to a nullity. Experience has no doubt convinced them of the importance of the Board's having its own Medical Officer.

The circumstances that gave rise to the discussion on Thursday were rather remarkable. A resident at the Peak suspecting that two of his coolies might be suffering from plague communicated with the Sanitary Board. The Secretary, by direction of the President, requested the Acting Colonial Surgeon to be good enough to send a medical officer to accompany the officer of the Sanitary Board, who would be prepared to remove the cases if necessary. The Acting Colonial Surgeon declined to do so, on the ground that a private medical practitioner should be engaged or the cases be sent to the Civil Hospital on the employer's responsibility. It cannot be expected that the Colonial Surgeon or the Civil Hospital staff should be at the beck and call of everyone, but it is most important that whenever there is suspicion of the presence of infectious disease it should be officially taken note of and that the removal of the sufferers, if removal be necessary, should be

effected with proper safeguards, and not by the means at the disposal of private individuals. Hence the importance of the Sanitary Board's having its own medical officer.

Incidentally the question arises of the responsibility of Europeans in the case of sickness breaking out amongst their servants. As a matter of fact, servants when they fall sick are as a rule anxious to leave their employer's residence and employers, on the other hand, are equally anxious that they should do so. With the gulf fixed between the two nationalities, the employer can do little for the comfort or welfare of the servant, nor is the latter willing to accept his attentions. Consequently the number of cases in which the medical staff might be called upon to visit suspicious cases amongst the Chinese servants of Europeans would under any circumstances necessarily be very small. It should be the policy of the Government and Sanitary Board, however, to encourage reports in cases of the kind instead of discouraging them. On this point we find some difficulty in following the line of Dr. ATKINSON's argument. He says he would have the Contagious Diseases Notification Act introduced here, under which "the only reasonable ground for belief that disease of an infectious or contagious character has broken out" would be the production of a medical certificate to that effect. As it is not customary on the part of the Chinese to engage doctors capable of giving a medical certificate we might, if this principle were adopted, have plague and small-pox and a dozen other contagious diseases raging amongst us and yet officially there would be no reasonable ground for supposing they existed because there would be no medical certificate to that effect, certainly not if the sufferers or their friends could help it. The idea is quite Gilbertian in its humour, but it would not answer in practice. If the colony is to be kept free of epidemic disease it will have to be by the exercise of vigilance on the part of the Sanitary staff, not by sitting down with folded hands and waiting for medical certificates which would never be given because they would never be asked for.

THE JAPANESE IN FORMOSA.

CAPTURE OF KAGEE.

PROBABLE SURRENDER OF LIU.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
AMOI, 11th October, 9.54 a.m.

Kagee has been captured by the Japanese, who are advancing rapidly on Tainanfu.

Consul Hurst left Anping suddenly for the Pescadores by H.M.S. *Pique*, presumably with terms of surrender on behalf of Liu.

LIU REFUSES TO SURRENDER.

BOMBARDMENT EXPECTED.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
AMOI, 15th October, 9.44 a.m.

The Japanese demand unconditional surrender. Liu refuses.

Bombardment is hourly expected.

The Japanese land forces are close to Tainanfu.

The foreigners are on board H.M.S. *Pique*.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ANPING, 10th October.

H.M.S. *Pique* arrived on Monday, the 7th, reporting thirty-three Japanese transports at anchor in the Pescadores.

News was received last night announcing the capture of Kagee and the rapid advance of the Japanese forces on Tainanfu.

H.M.S. *Pique* left suddenly last night for the Pescadores with Consul Hurst, who, it is understood, carries a despatch to the Japanese, offering terms of surrender.

There is general satisfaction at the prospect of peaceful negotiations, but it remains to be seen what steps the Japanese will take, to enforce the restoration of order in the island, before finally settling accounts with the retiring General.

Little or no danger threatens the foreign community and it is hoped that the long dreaded complications may not arise.

THE KUCHENG COMMISSION.

THE CONSUL TO INTERVIEW THE VICEROY.

THE ADMIRAL EXPECTED.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
FOOCHOW, 11th October, 9.45 p.m.

Consul Mansfield arrives here to-morrow from Kucheng to interview the Viceroy.

The Admiral is expected to arrive here presently.

THE OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION.

Foochow, 5th October.

The examination of prisoners recommenced on the 23rd ult. and continued over the 24th. Six were examined during the two days and three others were brought into Court for re-examination. The six were all found to be more or less implicated in the massacre, and with them the list of those among the prisoners actually known to have been present at Whasang comes to an end, though many of those still untried stand accused of having been concerned in one way or another with the crime. Before the rising of the Court on the latter day two men were brought in, accused of having spread false reports to the effect that the Prefect had been heard to say that the Christians were a troublesome lot and that the authorities would have to begin to deal with them as soon as they had finished with the Vegetarians. When questioned they denied flatly having done anything of the kind, and this in the face of their having been to see Mr. Banister, begging him to intercede for them with the Prefect. Finally, however, following the exercise of some little patience and some gentle pressure, they confessed; and after asking the pardon of the Prefect and the Court they were warned and released. Notwithstanding all this show of indignation on the part of the Prefect it is more than likely that the words attributed to him and spread abroad by these men were true. And then the opportunity was taken to touch on the proclamation trouble. It was scandalous to find after the Taotai had promised that a new proclamation should be posted about the city and suburbs that one similar to the previous objectionable issue should have been placarded, and the Consuls expressed their indignation at this in no measured words. The excuse of the city magistrate was that his writer had made a mistake and that he should be punished for it. This excuse was too thin and easily to be seen through. Because the members of the Commission did not parade the streets of the city and suburbs, it was thought that the wording of the new proclamation would not be known to them, but here the use of the native Christians came in. They copied it and gave the copy to Mr. Banister. There seems to have been no limit to the attempts at humbugging, of which this one instance; and no wonder. The Consuls had had nothing beyond their own wits to back them, and all praise is due to these able men who have stood their ground single handed, so to speak, up to the present time, in spite of all provocations, against the wiles of the Chinese, who were supposed to be associated with them and to help them in the work of this investigation. The Taotai H'su, who was reported to have full powers to act, appears to have no more power than his predecessor. Every point of disagreement is referred to the Viceroy. He is the chief obstructionist. Mr. Mansfield received telegrams from Peking informing him that it was

arranged that all criminals should be executed according to law, and that the Viceroy had been instructed to this effect; yet up to the 30th ult. he had refused to act on these instructions. Touching on this point before the Court rose Mr. Mansfield and Colonel Hixson in an argument with the Prefect made the situation very unpleasant for the Chinese officials. Whether at this sitting or at some other time, it transpired that the Viceroy had taken up the line that this dreadful massacre should be treated as an ordinary street brawl. Is it possible that he can have been left in ignorance of the thorough organization of the gang which went to Whasang to do the deed? Scarcely. He can only have adopted this line of thought as a reason to obstruct or delay the ends of justice. Under date 30th ult. we learn that the Chinese, seeing that the chief criminals had been tried, think they have had enough of it. Two Generals have returned to Foochow and some of the soldiers; and this, although there are yet so many prisoners to be tried and a hundred or more suspects still at large.

At the last moment we get news from Kucheng dated yesterday morning. Matters were still at a deadlock. The Viceroy is said to have given in on the question of the condemnation of those who were at Whasang, but it will probably be long before further executions take place. The list of the condemned had not yet been sent to him and after he gets it he will take his time to issue his orders under some paltry pretext or other. The Prefect has returned to Foochow with his retinue disgusted. It is useless to say there is a general feeling of dissatisfaction in the minds of both Europeans and Chinese in the present state of affairs.—*Echo*.

In reference to Hsü Taotai, the special Commissioner appointed from Peking to settle the Kucheng case, it is perhaps not generally known that he was last year, and a part of the year before last, Amoy Taotai and that it was through him that the sum of Tls. 250,000 was collected from the native trading classes and the local gentry for the purchase of twenty-eight big guns from Germany for the arming of the forts guarding the entrance to the port of Amoy. He is decorated with the peacock's feather and the brevet button (red) of the second civil rank, and is also recorded in the Grand Council books as eligible for the most important posts. He has been for several years a member of the Provincial Board of Reorganisation of Fukien and the Likin Bureau, and has lately been appointed a director of the Bureau of Foreign Affairs in Foochow, of which the Provincial Treasurer is President. He was a special protégé of the late Viceroy Pien Pao-ti, the predecessor of T'an Chung-lin, whom the present Viceroy Pien Pao-chuan succeeded last May as Governor-General of Min-ché.—*N. O. Daily News*.

THE ANTI-CHRISTIAN RIOTING AT HOK-CHIONG.

Foochow, 5th October.

In consequence of the disquieting news reaching Foochow early last week from Hok-chiong a reliable messenger was sent up to enquire into it. He has now returned and reports that threatening rumours of a general rising against the Christians are rife there. The new magistrate who has just been appointed by the Viceroy is by his conduct encouraging this hostility against the Christians. One of these Christians was severely beaten by the persecutors last Sunday week. His father had him conveyed to the magistrate's yamen, according to Chinese law, to have his wounds examined. This magistrate at once took occasion to abuse both father and son, told them because they were Christians they were foreigners, and as such had no right to have their cases brought before a Chinese court of justice! He then beat the father ten blows; and thus insulted him. This was all said and done in open court before a crowd of people, who of course looked upon it as an encouragement to them to persecute and even kill the Christians. What can be expected when the Chinese authorities themselves so openly disregard treaty rights and set themselves boldly

in opposition to the direct orders of the Chinese Imperial edict lately published even in Hek-chiong. We have long known that Imperial decrees had little respect shown them by local mandarins, but rarely have we had such an example of open and gross disregard by a Chinese official for commands of his Emperor. The Imperial decree in favour of protection to Christians as true Chinese subjects was hanging before this official's eyes when he uttered these words and illegally beat this Christian. It is very much to be feared that the conduct of this magistrate is the prelude to a general persecution of Christians in Hek-chiong. The high authorities have been appealed to, but they, as usual, pay no attention to appeals or warnings. They were appealed to and warned again and again in the Kucheng troubles when first those troubles broke out, but they turned a deaf ear and did nothing. We all know the terrible result. We can come to no other conclusion but that these authorities fully sympathize with these riots against Christians and these horrible massacres of foreign missionaries.—*Fochow Echo*.

THE "BELGIC" FLOATED.

Mr. Van Buren, the Agent of the O. & O. Company, informs us that he has received a telegram from Yokohama that the *Belgie* has been safely floated and has arrived at Yokosuka.

COLONIAL COURT OF ADMIRALTY.

10th October.

BEFORE SIR FIELDING CLARKE (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND HON. W. C. H. HASTINGS (ASSESSOR).

KWOK SHING FAT v. THE STEAMSHIP "CHOYSANG."

The plaintiff brought an action to recover \$2,441 from the defendant ship, a British ship registered in London, and belonging to the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company. The action arose out of a collision on the high seas between the two boats.

Mr. Pollock (instructed by Mr. Mounsey) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. Hastings, of Mr. V. H. Deacon's office), represented the defendant.

Mr. Pollock said the plaintiff was the owner and master of the Chinese junk *Shing Fat*, and the collision took place on the high seas off the coast of China between Swatow and Hongkong at 3 a.m. on the 18th September last. The steamship *Choysang* was on her way from Swatow to Hongkong, and the junk was coming out from the coast on a southerly course on a fishing expedition and was in the company of the junk *Kai Chung*, which was taking the lead. The plaintiff's story was that at the time named he saw almost at right angles to them on the port beam a white light high up in the air. Very shortly afterwards the steamer was seen and almost immediately the *Choysang* ran into plaintiff's junk a little apart of the main mast and almost at right angles with the side of the junk. From the preliminary acts his Lordship would see that there was a discrepancy as to whether the junk was carrying a light. Plaintiff alleged that he had a light on a pole on the raised stern of the junk, and the defendants alleged there was no light. There was also a discrepancy as to the exact state of the weather. Plaintiff, in his preliminary act, thus described the weather:—"It was cloudy overhead, but clear on the water." The defendant Company said "it was very dark, overcast, and cloudy," and said nothing about the water. It was quite clear that the defendant ship was bound by the statutory regulations for preventing collisions at sea.

His Lordship—The defendant does not dispute that, I suppose.

Mr. Francis said he thought it was clear that if the junk was not bound by the regulations the British steamship was also not bound by them. The Chinese Government had not adopted the rules and regulations, and junks were not bound by them, but by the general rules of the sea.

His Lordship—The rule is to stop if necessary. If it was necessary to stop and you did not do so you are to blame whether you are bound by the regulations or not.

Mr. Francis—I do not deny that, my Lord. We are bound by the ordinary rules of good seamanship.

His Lordship—You would not dispute the rule on good seamanship that if the plaintiff junk had a light you were bound to keep out of her way?

Mr. Francis—No, I do not think there will be any dispute about that.

In reply to a further question by his Lordship Mr. Francis said it had been laid down years ago that a vessel steaming under the rules and regulations was not bound by them when meeting another vessel not recognising those rules and regulations.

Mr. Pollock—My submission is that the plaintiff's junk was not bound to carry any light; there is no regulation which compels him to carry a light on a junk. But after hearing the evidence of the plaintiff and his witnesses I think your Lordship will have no doubt that there was a light on the junk.

His Lordship—You would not say that a junk was entirely free from blame if it did not carry a light?

Mr. Pollock—Yes, my Lord. I have several cases on the point, and I may perhaps quote them now.

His Lordship—No; let us hear the evidence first.

Plaintiff was then called and said that he carried a light on a pole six feet long, and it was placed on the stern, which was sixteen feet high. He did not change his course when he saw the light of the steamer. Four of his foks were drowned through the collision. There were thirteen people on board altogether, and those who were saved boarded the *Choy-sang* as the junk was abandoned.

Cross-examined—On arriving in Hongkong witness went with the comprador of the steamer to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson's hong. It was quite true that he then claimed only \$1,700 damages—\$1,200 the value of the junk and \$500 the value of the contents.

After other witnesses had corroborated the statement of plaintiff's counsel, Mr. Francis called his evidence.

William Whittall, second officer of the *Choy-sang*, said on the morning of the collision the sky was overcast and gloomy; the night was dark but clear. When he first saw the junk it was between 200 and 300 feet away on the starboard side. There was no light whatever on the junk. He saw it was impossible to avoid a collision, and so he put the helm hard astarboard, in order that those on the junk might put about if they saw the steamer, or that the junk should strike the steamer instead of the steamer striking the junk. The people on the junk did not give any signal. After the collision witness put off in a boat in company with two Chinamen, and they picked up six men, three children, and one woman from the junk. There was nothing in the junk but a few fishing nets and some crockery.

The case had not concluded when the Court rose and was adjourned.

11th October.

William Whittall, the second officer, resumed his evidence. In cross-examination witness said that in addition to himself there was a Chinese quartermaster on the bridge at the helm, and a young man named Ainsworth, who was working his passage down, was on the fore-castle looking out.

Captain Tamplin spoke to being called by the last witness and to giving directions about the searching of the junk, etc. There was no light on the junk. Efforts were made to tow it, but they were abandoned at daylight.

Several additional witnesses were called, and the case for the defendant closed.

Mr. Francis said he had a slight touch of fever, and he asked his Lordship to adjourn until to-day.

His Lordship—Under those circumstances I must. I do not know whether you think there is a reasonable doubt about this case. You both have difficulties to get over.

Mr. Francis thereupon consulted with his clients and afterwards announced that they could not agree to letting the case remain as it was.

His Lordship—I may say at once that it is pretty clear that the junk carried no light; I am quite satisfied on that point; also that there was not a proper look-out on the junk—no look-out whatever.

Mr. Francis—I do not think I need address your Lordship on the question.

His Lordship—There is not much law involved, is there? It is very much a question of fact.

Mr. Francis—There is not much law involved, my Lord.

Mr. Pollock—I am quite willing, my Lord, if my friend says he is not going to address your Lordship on the question of law, not to trouble your Lordship at all.

His Lordship—Mr. Francis, you have got to look at these facts:—The steamer was going ten knots an hour; there were a number of junks; the night was clear, and probably you did not see this junk until she was under your bows. On the other hand Mr. Pollock has got to get over the fact that he had no light at all. Is not that pretty much the position?

Mr. Francis—I think it is, my Lord.

His Lordship—I do not know whether you want to argue—to make speeches—but I know what the result will be, although I shall be glad to hear you. That is all I can say.

Mr. Francis—I am acting under my instructions, my Lord.

On the rising of the Court the counsel had a consultation, and came to an agreement, which was consented to by his Lordship, who was seen in chambers. On this agreement his Lordship found that both parties were to blame, and made no order as to costs. Counsel on both sides consented to the damages being fixed at \$1,600, and, under the Admiralty rules, the defendant was adjudged to pay \$800 of this sum to the plaintiff.

SUPREME COURT.

9th October.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

VAN EPPS v. GORNELL.

William Edgar Van Epps, general commission agent, 47, Queen's Road Central, brought an action against Christopher Gornell, quartermaster sergeant, Commissariat Buildings, to recover \$300 amount due upon a joint and several promissory note signed by the defendant and H. Patey, and of which plaintiff is the holder. Mr. Dennys appeared for the plaintiff, and the defendant was represented by Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Dennys said the note sued upon was given to Emily Minhinnett and was as follows:—"Hongkong, September 22nd, 1893. For value received we conjointly and severally promise to pay to Emily Minhinnett the sum of \$300 by monthly instalments of \$20 per month." The note was signed by Gornell and H. Patey. The note passed into the hands of Van Epps, but while in the payee's possession the following addition was made:—"The first instalment to be paid on 22nd November, 1893, till the whole is paid in full." This alteration was made with the consent of the parties, and Mr. Dennys relied upon the 6th section of Ordinance 9 of 1885 in support of his case. The section is—"Where a bill or acceptance is materially altered without the assent of all parties liable on the bill, the bill is avoided except as against a party who has himself made, authorised, or assented to the alteration, and subsequent indorsees. Provided that where a bill has been materially altered, but the alteration was not apparent, and the bill is in the hands of a holder in due course, such holder may avail himself of the bill as if it had not been altered, and may enforce payment of it according to its original tenour." The defendant had, amongst other things, set up the defence that he did not assent to the alteration, that it was a material alteration, and that it was apparent. But he (Mr. Dennys) submitted that the alteration was not material, and that

the defendant must have had knowledge of it. He asked his Lordship to give judgment on the note as it originally stood.

Mr. Robinson admitted giving the note, and therefore Mr. Dennys did not, at this stage, call witnesses. Mr. Robinson contended that the alteration was material and it was made without the consent of the defendant. Counsel then quoted several cases in support of his argument.

Defendant said he wrote the note down to the words "\$20 a month." The remainder was in the handwriting of the payee, Emily Minhinnett. These last words were not on the note when it was signed and he had never consented to their insertion. He first heard of the alteration in the early part of 1895. Patey was a Sergeant-Major in the Royal Artillery. The note was made early in 1893. Patey went to witness, said he was in difficulties, and they both went to Mr. Minhinnett's house where witness drew up the note at Minhinnett's dictation.

Cross-examined by Mr. Dennys—Patey went to Colombo the day after the note was signed. He did not, as far as witness knew, threaten to shoot himself unless he got money. He was receiving about 3s. 9d. a day and was then being paid at the rate of 2/8 to the dollar. The arrangement was that Patey was to remit money after he got to Colombo.

This was the whole of the evidence for the defendant, and Mr. Dennys thereupon called the plaintiff, who said that he paid Emily Minhinnett \$250 for the note on 14th August, 1895, and he did not know anything about the alteration at the time. Witness was now claiming for the \$300 irrespective of monthly instalments.

Mr. Dennys said Patey went to Colombo on the 23rd September, and he could not possibly have sent the first instalment on 22nd October. Therefore the understanding was, counsel submitted, that the payment of the first instalment was to stand over for a month.

His Lordship—Although I have not very much doubt in my own mind what decision I shall come to, I should like to look up the cases. Judgment reserved.

11th October.

His Lordship delivered the following judgment—In this case the plaintiff sues on a promissory note. It appears that somewhere about 22nd September, 1893, a man named Patey, who is a non-commissioned officer in the Royal Artillery, got into some difficulties, and he went to the present defendant and asked him to become security for him in a loan transaction. The two then adjourned to the house of a man named Minhinnett, and there in Minhinnett's presence the defendant wrote out the promissory note in dispute, or the one on which they are fighting, at the dictation of Minhinnett, and it was signed there by Patey as the borrower and by the present defendant as security. Mr. Robinson, for the defence, set up several defences, and it strikes me that the most important one, or the one I shall deal with first, is that based on section 64 of the Bills of Exchange Ordinance, 1885, to the effect that after the signing and making of that note a "material alteration" had taken place, and that that alteration "is apparent." But before considering that subject I had better read the promissory note. The promissory note as originally drawn is as follows:—"Hongkong, 22nd September, 1893. For value received we jointly and severally promise to pay to Emily Minhinnett the sum of \$300 (three hundred dollars) by monthly instalments of \$20 per month." The note was signed by Patey as the debtor and by Gornell as security. The alleged "material alteration" is as follows:—"The first instalment to be paid on the 22nd November, 1893, until the whole is paid in full." I may say at once, as I said at the trial, if that alteration was "material" I will hold at once that it was certainly "apparent." The alteration was in a perfectly different handwriting, and to anyone who is not blind the alteration is "apparent." It seems to me that the holder of the promissory note had a perfect right to sue for the first instalment on the 23rd October. What does the alteration mean? The alteration means practically this, that the holder of this promis-

sory note has postponed the payment of the first instalment for a further month, and surely in all conscience that is giving time to the principal behind the back of the surety. One of Mr. Dennys's points was that this addition was only carrying out the original intentions of the parties, and he supports that argument by certain evidence given by the defendant himself to the effect that at the time the promissory note was made John Minhinnett said to the plaintiff something to the effect, "I shall not bother you for three or four months." If that is so that addition, so far as the surety is concerned, could have been made in the body of the note at the time; it could not be made afterwards. Under these circumstances, holding that the alteration is an "apparent" one, it is unnecessary for me to go into the other lines of defence. I give judgment for the defendant with costs.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held at the offices on Thursday afternoon. Hon. F. A. Cooper (Director of Public Works) presided, and there were also present—Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings (Acting Captain-Superintendent of Police), Dr. J. M. Atkinson (Acting Colonial Surgeon), Mr. N. J. Ede, and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

BY-LAWS AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

The following two drafts of a by-law to provide for the punishment of any person giving false information in regard to contagious diseases were submitted:—

"Any person who gives false information on such notifications, unless he has reasonable grounds for believing the same to be true at the time of filling in such notification, the burden of proof resting on the party giving such information, shall upon summary conviction be held liable to a breach of these by-laws." (Drafted by the Superintendent.)

"Any person who knowingly gives false information concerning the premises in which a case of either small-pox, cholera, or bubonic plague has occurred shall commit a breach of these by-laws."

The following minutes were appended:—

The President—I am afraid it will prove very difficult to establish the fact that a person has knowingly given false information.

Mr. N. J. Ede—I recommend the adoption of the by-law adopted by the Superintendent and the alterations suggested by him in the existing by-laws.

The Acting Colonial Surgeon—Instead of these numerous by-laws, some dealing with small-pox, others with plague, I think it preferable to introduce an act similar to the Infectious Diseases Notification Act of 1889 now in force in London and many of the larger towns in England.

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police—I agree with Mr. Ede.

The ACTING COLONIAL SURGEON—With reference to the amending of the by-laws for the compulsory reporting of certain communicable diseases I think the recommendation I have made will be answered by the following amendments to the existing by-laws made by the Sanitary Board under section 13, subsection 24 of the Public Health Act. The first by-law reads:—"The following by-laws refer to small-pox only." Instead of that I propose:—"The following by-laws refer to the diseases hereinafter specifically mentioned." The second by-law will stand as it at present reads. The third by-law I propose to amend as follows:—"If any inmate of any premises be suffering from small-pox, plague, cholera, diphtheria, erysipelas, scarlet fever, typhus fever, enteric fever, or puerperal fever, such inmate, &c." The fourth by-law I propose to amend by adding the words, "shall on the nature of such diseases becoming known to him" to the sentence commencing "If any inmate, &c." The object in putting all these diseases in is to make them notifiable.

The PRESIDENT seconded the amendments proposed.

Carried.

The PRESIDENT then proposed that the drafted by-law throwing the onus of proof of innocence on the person giving inaccurate information be forwarded to the Colonial Secretary, together

with the amendments of the by-laws proposed by the Vice-President, with the request that the law officers of the Crown will put them in force.

Carried.

PLAGUE CASES AND MEDICAL ATTENTION.

The Secretary laid upon the table correspondence concerning two cases of sickness which occurred at 6, Stewart Terrace, Mount Gough, with a view to a definite course of action in the future. Mr. R. C. Wilcox wrote to the Secretary on the 27th September asking for the removal of the cases from the above address as Mr. Wilcox feared plague. The Secretary sent this note to the President, who instructed the Secretary to send to the Colonial Surgeon and ask him if he would be good enough to send a medical officer to accompany the officer of the Sanitary Board, who should be prepared to remove the cases if necessary. The Secretary thereupon wrote to Dr. Atkinson, who replied as follows:—"We cannot be expected to visit private cases of this nature unless we receive a medical certificate that the patients are suffering from an infectious disease. If a private practitioner cannot be found let the cases be sent down to the Government Civil Hospital. I had a similar case from a Peak residence this week, which was supposed to be plague, and turned out to be simply fever."

The following minutes were attached:—

The President—It cannot be expected that the Colonial Surgeon's service should be available for visiting the sick throughout the colony, though if there is reasonable ground for believing that disease of an infectious or contagious nature has broken out in any part of the colony, it is important that steps should be taken to at once ascertain if such is really the case, and immediate action taken accordingly. It appears to me that in future parties making application of this kind should be informed that the Board cannot adopt the course proposed, viz., the removal of the cases without a certificate from a duly qualified medical practitioner stating the nature of the disease the persons are suffering from, and that they are in a fit state for removal, at the same time pointing out that the applicant can remove on his own responsibility the case to the Government Civil Hospital, if he wishes to do so, where they will receive medical attendance.

Mr. Ede—I agree with the President, but at the same time is it not incumbent on anyone suspecting plague to notify the Sanitary Board at once? It is a pity there is not a medical officer at the disposal of the Sanitary Board who could be asked direct by the Superintendent to see any cases when thought necessary, instead of all this circumlocution and letters from one department to another. I fancy ours is the only Sanitary Board in existence that has no medical officer at its direct disposal.

The Acting Colonial Surgeon—All this unnecessary trouble would be done away with if the Infectious Diseases Notification Act of 1889 (England) was in force in this colony. Under that Act "the only reasonable ground for belief that disease of an infectious or contagious character has broken out" is the production of a medical certificate to that effect. Until such certificate is produced I do not see that it is in the province of the Sanitary Board to take action on receipt of the communications like the one in question.

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police—I understood the town was divided into two districts—West of the Club, Dr. Lowson; East, Dr. Westcott (now Dr. Clarke I take it), and they were to be sent for in case of suspected plague. The Peak is rather beyond the limits, but for a quibble like that the risk of the plague spreading should not have been run. It did not turn out to be plague, but they should have been seen.

The Secretary—I am still of opinion that the most expedient course to have taken was for the Medical Officer of Health to have seen the patients before any further step was taken. Of course with Europeans and probably with the servants of Europeans there would be no great difficulty or hardship in insisting on getting a medical certificate in the first instance, but with Chinese such a course is simply impracticable. I would also point out that it might, in some cases, endanger the sick person's life to insist on his removal to the hospital and have a further reason for the sick person to be seen by a medical officer before making such removal.

The PRESIDENT said that ample arrangements were made for dealing with cases of plague, and in this particular case he did not think that anyone experienced in the matter would have supposed the servants to be suffering from plague. He certainly thought that if a case of plague was suspected the Sanitary Board should be communicated with.

The ACTING COLONIAL SURGEON proposed that the recommendations made by the President be carried out.

The ACTING CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE seconded.

Mr. EDE was in favour of the Board having a Medical Officer, and he would like his minute communicated to the Government.

The PRESIDENT—You think these are cases which the Government medical officers should be called upon to attend.

Mr. EDE—They will not be called upon very often. It is very difficult for a resident who thinks his servant is suffering from plague to take upon himself the responsibility of bringing that servant out of the house. It is very desirable that the Superintendent should be able to write to some one who could see what was really the matter.

The ACTING COLONIAL SURGEON—If these by-laws that I have recommended be carried out these diseases will be notified by the medical officer attending that house. There is no cause for suspecting plague at the Peak. There is any amount of ordinary fever about, and I certainly do not think that Government medical officers should be called upon to assist when such a request as the present one is made.

Mr. EDE proposed as an amendment that a medical officer be attached to the Board so that the Superintendent could ask him to visit such cases.

The PRESIDENT—In order to give Dr. Atkinson an opportunity of making a statement I second the amendment. But I think it is a very difficult matter indeed to say where the limit is to be made. If a medical officer is attached to this Board and it is understood that private individuals have a right to call upon that officer to attend all cases of suspicion, I am afraid the work would far exceed the capabilities of one man.

The ACTING COLONIAL SURGEON—I would point out, as I said before, that there is no ground for supposing that plague was existing at the Peak. I certainly think that if the by-laws are carried out—and they will practically enforce the Notification of Diseases Act at home—no such cases will occur again. Of course if the medical officer was at the disposal of the public it would be impossible for any one man to do the work.

The ACTING CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—I think Mr. Ede's idea is that the Government officer should go and see the case and not attend it. If it was really a case of plague the patient would have to go to the hospital. A very great risk would be run if there was no medical officer, and no one would willingly send for the Government medical officer unless it was honestly believed it was a case of plague. I agree with the amendment.

Mr. EDE—The medical officer would not be at the beck and call of every individual, as every application would have to go through the Superintendent.

The amendment was carried; the Acting Colonial Surgeon voted against it.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended 28th September the death rate was 21.7 per 1,000 per annum, and at the corresponding period last year it was 19.1.

The following minutes were appended—

The Secretary—The only features of special importance in this return are the number of deaths (seven) recorded as occurring from fever in the Shaukiwan district.

Mr. Ede—Is it certain that the seven deaths at Shaukiwan are from fever? I think enquiry might be made.

The Acting Colonial Surgeon—An enquiry is being made by Dr. Clarke.

For the week ended the 5th inst. the death rate was 31.2, as compared with 19.9 at the corresponding period last year.

The following minutes were attached—

The Secretary—The number of deaths recorded from fever in the Shaukiwan district is high this week again. There is no other feature of special importance in this return.

Mr. N. J. Ede—Is any special cause attributed to the high mortality at Shaukiwan?

The Acting Colonial Surgeon—These statistics, I fear, are anything but satisfactory. I intend reporting on these deaths at next meeting.

The ACTING COLONIAL SURGEON said Dr. Clarke, the Medical Officer of Health, was requested to go to Shaukiwan, and he reported

that the returns from this district were unreliable. Deaths had been recorded as having occurred from fever when they were really from diarrhoea, consumption, or something else. The patients had been attended by Chinese doctors. He (Dr. Atkinson) certainly thought some improvement might be made in the method of compiling the mortality statistics. The subject required careful consideration, and therefore he did not propose to make any recommendation at present.

THE CENTRAL MARKET.

A petition was received from stall-holders in the Central Market asking for part of the market to be opened until nine o'clock each night.

The PRESIDENT said that members were generally agreed that this request should not be granted, as it came from only a minority of the stall-holders. He therefore moved that the Colonial Secretary be informed accordingly.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Board adjourned until Thursday week.

MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF A NORWEGIAN SEAMAN.

At the Magistracy yesterday Hon. H. E. Wodehouse held an inquiry concerning the death of Johann Gundersen, a seaman on the American barque *George F. Manson*, whose body was found outside the harbour on the 9th inst.

Tom Stevenson, officer in charge of the Chinese revenue launch *Capsui Tsai*, said—On the 10th inst. I was in the launch about one mile to the north-west of Wain-chau, when I saw the body of deceased in the water. The body was fully clothed. I took the body to Chung Chau, put it on the beach, and communicated with Captain Palmer. There were several cuts about the head and body. Only one button of the trousers was fastened.

August Johannsen, seaman on the *George F. Manson*, said—I knew the deceased. He was a Norwegian, and was over 30 years of age. He joined the ship in Hongkong on the 4th October.

Lauritz Aaro, an unemployed seaman, said—I last saw deceased some time on Sunday evening, the 6th inst. I cannot say exactly what time it was. He came out of the "Man at the Wheel" with the intention of going to the Sailors' Home, but he was too drunk to get there. He went as far as Queen Street and then turned down towards the Praya. That was the last time I saw him alive. He said he was going to take a sampan to go aboard the barque. He then had no words upon him.

Cheung Foo, a private watchman, said—On Sunday, the 6th inst., between 10.45 and 11 p.m. I saw the deceased, who was very drunk, trying to get into a fourth class rowing boat. He made several attempts, missed his footing, nearly fell into the water, and at length got into the boat. That was just off Bonham Strand West. A boatman on shore called the boat for the deceased. The only people I saw on the boat were a man and a woman. The Chinese on shore told the people on the boat to take the man to a three-masted ship at Yaumati, and also said that the man "might be the chief officer."

Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Acting Colonial Surgeon, said—On the 12th inst. I made a *post-mortem* examination of the body, which was in an advanced state of putrefaction. I found a number of wounds on the head and face. There was one on the right occiput five inches long; there was another on the right cheek six inches in length extending to the neck and reaching to the bone; there was also a wound extending from the left angle of the mouth to the middle of the chin, and this also exposed the bone. In addition to these wounds there were also numerous incised and punctured wounds over the rest of the scalp and face. The right arm was slashed about from the elbow to the shoulder and was almost amputated from the body, the bone and shoulder joints being exposed. There was also an incised wound five inches long in front of the right shoulder joint. The cause of death was probably hemorrhage occasioned by these wounds. There were no signs of drowning; but it is impossible to say positively whether drowning was the cause of death, owing to the advanced state of decomposition. The

heart was entirely decomposed. The incised wounds were inflicted by a sharp instrument, other wounds were torn, and the punctured wounds might have been inflicted by a prong or pointed weapon. The wound in front of the shoulder joint could have been fatal; this was an incised wound, but I am not able to say whether the main artery was cut. The mucous membrane of the stomach was congested. The kidneys were also congested, and this was an indication that the man had been addicted to alcoholic drinking. The right sleeve of the coat and shirt which the deceased was wearing was missing. The sleeves had been torn off irregularly.

The first witness was then recalled, and said there were traces of blood on the clothes when he found the body.

Carl Andersen, barman, said—I saw deceased on Sunday night, the 6th inst. He was drunk and was wearing a watch and chain. He paid for three drinks at the "Man at the Wheel" with his last dollar, receiving 55 cents change.

The inquiry was adjourned.

THE BRITISH ULTIMATUM AND THE DEGRADATION OF LIU.

Shanghai, 7th October.

We may remark in reference to the confident statements that have been made in some journals that the French Minister to Peking, M. Gérard, procured the degradation of the ex-Viceroy of Szechuen, Liu Ping-chang, that while we cannot tell what promises may have been made to M. Gérard, no Imperial Edict to that effect was issued previously to the one extorted by the British Minister, Sir Nicholas O'Connor, on Sunday, the 29th ult. While it is true that Liu Ping-chang had been already impeached and removed from office, the value of the Edict of the 29th ult. is, that in it Liu Ping-chang is specially punished for having neglected to protect the missionaries in Szechuen.

Nanking and Wuchang were to have been taken and held by the British naval forces if the Peking Government had held out in its refusal to adequately punish the ex-Viceroy of Szechuen, Liu Ping-chang. The Government, however, gave way, as usual, at the eleventh hour, and the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung has shown his chagrin by his refusal to receive Admiral Buller, who only proposed to make a friendly call on him, as foreign Admirals always do when they make a trip of observation up the Yangtze. Perhaps, considering the Viceroy's frame of mind under the circumstances, he having been unavoidably made the scapegoat for a policy which he neither advised nor directed, it is just as well that he did not meet Admiral Buller; though it is stated that he was personally prepared to acquiesce in any demands that England might make. He at any rate knows the futility of attempting to oppose Great Britain when the mistress of the seas is in earnest.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Peking, 1st October.

The greatest victory for the cause of righteousness seen or heard of for some time has just been secured through the determination, persistency, and just demands of the British Minister. In my previous letter of a week ago, I mentioned that the demands made for the banishment of the ex-Viceroy of Szechuen, Liu Ping-chang, had been refused by the Tsungli Yamen. The new and active member of that body, the Imperial Tutor, Wung Tungho, had telegraphed both to London and Washington complaining against the annoyance and interference of the British and American Ministers. The British Government seems to have recognized the work of its representative by promoting him to a more desirable and honourable post. While waiting amid these acts of international unpleasantness, the rights of missionaries in Szechuen seemed further away than ever. Such was the limit of unsatisfactoriness.

Then came a sudden rush of satisfaction culminating in the greatest victory for several decades. The British Minister requested an interview at the yamen, where Prince Kung should be present. It implied that Wung Tungho was not wanted. The interview was granted as requested. The British Minister insisted that as the Chinese mode of managing mis-

tionary difficulties had only increased the danger of those difficulties, there was reason in listening to the demands of foreigners. He therefore again insisted that the ex-Viceroy and all the local officials should be severely punished, and would allow three days for a reply and two weeks' time to have the matter completed and announced in the official gazette. The Prince and Ministers deemed it best to act promptly, and not only gave a reply but announced the punishment within the three days' limit.

The Edict of the Emperor condemns the ex-Viceroy, Liu Ping-chang, for failure to prevent the riots, and for that failure he is to be degraded, never to hold office again. The present Viceroy is ordered to examine and determine the proper punishment for the Taotai, Prefect, and Magistrates responsible for the riots in their jurisdiction. This also is to be announced in a future *Peking Gazette*.

The punishment of the ex-Viceroy, which is not of banishment, is yet very severe in the eyes of the Chinese. Whether living or dead, he and his descendants are to suffer the disgrace. He may now return to his home, but not as a high official, or even a smaller. He is only an unofficial Chinese subject. In addition to this he has been made to give up a large part of his fortune to meet the financial losses of the missionaries, and we may well believe that he has spent a good sum of money to defend himself among the high officials in Peking, but all to no avail.

In the Edict there was no mention of the British Minister accusing the officials of Szechuen, but of a censor who had accused him. This censor, Wu Kuangkuei, is a Szechuen man, from the city of Chungking. He probably represents the sentiment of the people of Szechuen, who have no defence to give the official who has for a decade squeezed his thousands out of the people, with no recompense therefor.

The punishment of these officials forms a precedent for the future. Governor and Viceroy will bestir themselves a great deal more to see that missionaries are henceforth protected.

This action, a victory to Sir Nicholas O'Connor, casts Wung Tungho in the background. As soon as he entered the Tsungli Yamen as a member he appeared as a leader. Prince Kung and Ching remained in the background. Wung was given a free hand. He at once ran counter to the Foreign Ministers, and to hold to his own ideas complained against them to the home Governments. The British Government stood by its agent, and Wung was pushed to the wall. He has lost his "face" and his cunning. There is now a chance for the progressive ideas to come to the front.—*Mercury* correspondent.

THE GYMKHANA MEETING.

The fifth and concluding Gymkhana meeting was held at the Happy Valley on Saturday afternoon, and proved a most successful and enjoyable wind-up of the season. The weather was gloriously refreshing, and consequently there was a large number of spectators present in the enclosure, among them being his Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson, Major-General Black, and Commodore Boyes. The programme was in every respect first class, and the racing the best that has been seen during the season. There were seven events and five of them were pony races. Mr. Hart Buck's very fine pony, Voltigeur, won both the Five Furlong Race and the Gymkhana Champions' Race in splendid style, and met with a befitting reception on his return to the enclosure.

During the afternoon the band of the Rifle Brigade played several selections.

Patrons.—His Excellency Sir William Robinson, His Excellency Major-General Black, and Commodore G. T. H. Boyes.

Committee.—Capt. Gould-Adams, Mr. R. Alexander, Mr. T. F. Hough, Lieut.-Col. Barrow, Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Mr. Hart Buck, Lord Chas. Conyngham, Mr. W. A. Cruickshank, Capt. Gordon, Mr. R. M. Gray, Capt. Loveband, Mr. A. S. Manners, Mr. G. C. C. Master, Lt.-Col. The O'Gorman, Mr. C. S. Taylor, and Commander W. F. Tunnard.

Judges.—Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving and Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman.

Handicappers.—Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Mr. R. M. Gray, and Mr. Hart Buck.
Starter.—Capt. Gould-Adams.
Timekeeper.—Mr. R. M. Gray.
Clerk of the Scales.—Mr. R. Alexander.
Hon. Treasurer.—Mr. G. C. C. Master.
Hon. Secretary.—Mr. T. F. Hough.

ULTRA PULTRA RACE, FOOT RACE. Open to all Europeans. Distance 220 yards. Conditions—(1) Each competitor will draw for the man he has to run for. (2) The man he runs for must be a competitor in the race. (3) The last man home will win the first prize for the man he has drawn in the lottery. (4) The first man home will win the second prize for himself. Note.—(1) No man will know who he is running for until after the race is over. (2) A man may draw himself in the lottery. (3) If more than two prizes are given (say four) then the last two home will win the first and third prizes for the men they have drawn in the lottery and the first two home will win the second and fourth prizes for themselves. Prizes—first \$8, second \$6, third \$4, fourth \$2.

Private Poole, A.S.C., as last man, for Private Brickwood 1
Private Ryder, R.B. 2
Private Parke, R.B., for Private Harding 3
Acting Corporal Hale, R.B. 4
FIVE FURLONG RACE, HANDICAP.—For all China ponies. First prize a cup presented by Lord Charles Conyngham; second 70 per cent. of entrance fees; third 30 per cent.

Mr. Hart Buck's Voltigeur, 11st. 9lbs. (Owner) 1
Captain Radclyffe's Dandy, 10st. 10lbs. (Owner) 2
Mr. J. J. Bell-Irving's Daylight, 12st. 8lbs. (Mr. Landale) 3
Mr. George's Harfang, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Fullerton) 0
Major G. K. Moore's Sweetbriar, 11st. (Capt. Thomas) 0

Dandy gave a little trouble at the post, but the start was a good one. Voltigeur took the lead from the first, followed closely by Sweetbriar, with Dandy, some distance behind, last. Passing the village Voltigeur had obtained a two lengths' lead, and in the straight for home Dandy and Daylight passed Sweetbriar in quick succession. The race, however, was a gift for Voltigeur, who won easily by many lengths. Dandy was second, three lengths from Daylight. Time, 1 min. 20 secs.

POLO PONY SCURRY FROM THE 1½ MILE POST IN.—For *boni fide* Polo ponies, catch weights, 12 stone or over, no allowances to riders as in rule 6; previous winners barred. First prize a cup; second the entrance fees. Entrance \$1. (Colours optional.)

Mr. W. A. Cruickshank's Simple Simon (Owner) 1
Capt. Bethune's Pinchawig (Capt. Radclyffe) 2
Capt. Loveband's The Friar (Owner) 3
Mr. A. D. H. Grayson's Gunner (Owner) 0
Captain Burney's Harbro (Owner) 0
Captain Thomas's Nixnutz (Capt. Welman) 0
Mr. Landale's Seamew (Owner) 0
Capt. Radclyffe's Valhalla II. (Lieut. Paley) 0
This race resulted in a very close finish. The ponies started well in a bunch, and in the straight Simple Simon took the lead, closely pursued by Pinchawig, and the pair had almost a neck and neck race to the winning post. Simple Simon, however, managed to win by a neck. The Friar was well up third. Time, 43 secs.

GYMKHANA CONSOLATION HANDICAP ONCE ROUND.—For ponies that have run in this series of Gymkhanas and not won a race. First prize a cup presented by Mr. Hart Buck; second 70 per cent. of entrance fees; third 30 per cent.

Mr. W. D. Graham's Baccarat, 11st. 7lbs. (Mr. Cruickshank) 1
Major Thomas's Warlock, 10st. 8lbs. (Owner) 2
Mr. Cruickshank's Simple Simon, 10st. 7lbs. (Mr. Gedde) 3
Capt. Loveband's The Friar, 10st. 10lbs. (Capt. Radclyffe) 0
Mr. Salmon's Q.C. 11st. 4lbs. (17lbs. overweight) (Lieut. Paley) 0
Baccarat took the lead followed by The Friar, and at the plantation the former had obtained a considerable advantage, which was increased by the time the rock was reached. Passing the village the order was very straggling, and The Friar fell back a lot, his place being taken by

Warlock, who tried hard to overtake Baccarat. Mr. Graham's pony, though, had gained too much ground and he was first past the post with a couple of lengths to spare. Bad third. Time—1 min. 6 secs.

LADIES' NOMINATION RACE.—Start opposite the stand dismounted. At fall of the flag mount by stirrup, ride round a flag placed about 250 yards down the course, keeping it on the left hand and return past the winning post, each competitor riding bareback and carrying his saddle on his arm; double girths to be used and competitors must ride at least twenty yards before commencing to unsaddle. All ponies to be upwards of 12 hands high. First prize presented by Mrs. Hawkins; second from the Fund.

Nominated by
Captain Loveband Miss Jackson 1
Mr. G. Paley Mrs. Moore 2
Mr. Cruickshank Mrs. Dalrymple 0
Major Thomas Mrs. Bird 0
Mr. Landale Miss Boyes 0

There was not much interest in this race, which did not contain the usual novel incidents.

THE GYMKHANA CHAMPIONS 1½ MILE RACE.—For ponies that have run in this series of Gymkhanas. First prize a cup presented by the Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, with \$100 added; second the entrance fees. Weight for inches as per scale. Entrance \$3.

Mr. Hart Buck's Voltigeur, 11st. 1lb. (Owner) 1
Captain Radclyffe's Dandy, 10st. 4lbs. (Owner) 2

Mr. Graham's Baccarat, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Cruickshank) 3
Lord C. Conyngham's Glenties, 10st. 4lbs. (Owner) 0

Mr. Little's Chesai, 10st. 7lbs. (Col. O'Gorman) 0
Major Moore's Sweetbriar, 11st. 5lbs. (1lb. overweight) (Mr. Paley) 0

On passing the post for the first time Dandy was leading, with Voltigeur and Glenties in close attendance, and this order was maintained until passing the rock, Chesai being a long distance away last. Voltigeur gradually gained ground and in the straight he took a decided lead and won with comparative ease by three lengths; one length between second and third. Time, 2 mins. 47 secs. The winner was loudly cheered on returning to the enclosure.

FOOT RACE. OVER HURDLES.—Distance about 80 yards. First prize \$6; second \$4.50; third \$3. Open to native soldiers and police. About a score of natives took part in this race, which proved very exciting.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

THE XI. v. THE XXII.

It is quite in accordance with all precedent that the first or second Saturday in October should see the opening match of the Cricket season, the title of which has been fixed by the inexorable laws of "old custom" as the *Eleven versus the Twenty-two*. Upon these occasions the cricket is usually characterized by a pleasing variety rather than by an interesting level of sustained excellency; and the honest spectator allows himself for once to disregard the laws of higher criticism, and permits himself to smile at lapses which under other circumstances would call forth the bitterest animadversion.

A good deal of interest, however, always attaches to the opening match, from the fact that the XXII. generally contains in its ranks a certain proportion of new comers, to whom we must look to take the places of oldsters who are falling out, or of residents who are leaving the colony. In the present instance there were several new faces in the field and Hongkong cricket will profit by the advent of Mr. A. Anderson (for many years the President of the Shanghai Cricket Club), of Captain Fergusson, of the Rifle Brigade, and of Messrs. Gillingham and Arthur—the latter old Dulwich boys we believe. The former pair made the only stand of any importance for the XXII., Anderson contributing 27 and Fergusson 25 before they succumbed to the deliveries of E. W. Maitland; whilst Gillingham and Arthur shaped well with the ball and behind the sticks respectively. As will be seen from the score victory rested with the XXII. by a majority of 29 runs on the first innings.

The cricket does not call for any detailed reference, Campbell and Anton being the only batmen on the side of the XI who played in any form, with 37 and 20 respectively, but even they were under serious obligations to the opposing side. Firth and Maitland bowled very successfully for the XI and succeeded in capturing their last ten wickets for 10 runs. Colonel Barrow and the officers of the Hongkong Regiment kindly allowed their band to play during the afternoon, to the great enjoyment of a considerable number of spectators, including a fair (in every sense of the word) sprinkling of ladies.

SCORE AND ANALYSIS.

XXII.					
P. G. Davis, c E. W. Maitland, b C. M. Firth	15				
Capt. A. G. Ferguson, R.B., c Mast, b E. W. Maitland	25				
Capt. Carter, c and b C. M. Firth	3				
A. Anderson, c Campbell, b E. W. Maitland	27				
G. Grimble, c Morcam, b Mast	12				
Gillingham, b Mast	2				
C. C. Platt, b Firth	5				
W. M. Thompson, R.E., c Firth, b E. W. Maitland	0				
A. G. Stokes, run out	5				
G. A. Woodcock, run out	0				
W. Macchell, run out	2				
Dr. Atkinson, c Morcam, b Firth	11				
S. Powell, c Sanderson, b E. W. Maitland	10				
J. S. Ezekiel, run out	0				
D. E. Brown, b Firth	0				
J. M. S. Machado, b Firth	0				
H. Grant Smith, c Mast, b E. W. Maitland	0				
H. Arthur, c Morcam, b E. W. Maitland	0				
B. Deacon, b E. W. Maitland	0				
Chantrey Inchbald, not out	0				
I. Grant Smith, b E. W. Maitland	0				
T. Sercombe Smith, b C. M. Firth	7				
Extras	20				

	Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wickets.
G. Lysley	7	2	22	0	0	0
C. M. Firth	24.2	11	41	0	0	6
E. W. Maitland	17	2	44	1	0	8
E. Mast	13	0	17	0	0	2

XXI.					
C. M. Firth, c Gillingham, b Anderson	0				
G. D. Campbell, H.K.R., c T. S. Smith, b Grimble	37				
E. W. Maitland, c Davis, b Gillingham	3				
A. S. Anton, c Gillingham, b Davis	20				
W. L. Reade, A.M.S., retired hurt	8				
L. Sanderson, R.B., run out	2				
Capt. Eccles, R.B., b Smith	15				
E. Mast, b Grimble	1				
G. Lysley, R.B., c Arthur, b Grimble	0				
E. Ezekiel, c Powell, b Smith	11				
W. C. Morcam, R.N., not out	2				
Extras	16				

	Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wicket.
Gillingham	12	4	20	0	0	1
A. Anderson	8	1	5	9	0	1
P. G. Davis	8	2	17	0	0	1
S. Powell	5	0	14	1	0	0
Machado	5	1	17	0	0	0
Smith	7	2	13	0	0	3
S. Smith	5	2	13	0	0	2

HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

The tie for the MacEwen Cup was played off yesterday and resulted in a win for Mr. V. A. Caesar Hawkins. His card showed steady play throughout, and if he progresses as well as at present he will soon join the ranks of the single figured handicaps.

Mr. V. A. Caesar Hawkins...97 13=84
Captain W. V. Eccles...92 3=89

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the twenty-second ordinary meeting to be held at the Society's offices on Wednesday, 30th and 31st.

The directors have a pleasure to submit to the shareholders a report on the business of the Society for the year 1894, and for the six months ending the 30th June, 1895.

1894.—The net premium collected for the year, after deducting returns and reinsurances, amounts to \$1,585,288.06. After providing for a bonus of 25 per cent. on contributions paid in April last, there remains at credit of working account a balance of \$439,177.18, as per annexed statement.

From this sum the directors recommend the payment of a second bonus of 6 per cent. on contributions, a dividend of \$12 per share, equivalent to 48 per cent. on the paid-up capital of \$25 per share, and an addition to the reserve fund of \$80,000, raising the reserve to \$1,050,000. The balance remaining of \$161,025.43 they propose to carry forward to meet liabilities and claims still outstanding, and thus close the account for the year 1894.

With reference to the division of profits the new articles of association apply only from the 1st January, 1895, and although the old articles were cancelled by special resolution on the 16th May, 1894, the directors have thought it right to follow the provisions of the old articles and to allot the usual two-thirds of the total profits as bonus to contributing shareholders.

1895.—The position of the Society for the present year, as far as it can be ascertained, is as follows:—

Balance of working account to the 30th June, as per annexed statement \$ 683,236.15
Add estimate of premium to 30th September 410,000.00

Estimate of losses to pay..... \$ 336,000.00

\$ 757,236.15

The remuneration to directors remains as originally fixed in the articles of association, namely, \$7,000 per annum, and while not wishing to bring forward any motion on this subject, the Board feels that the figure is more suited to the rates of exchange and the Society's business of twenty years ago than to those of the present time, and has therefore shown the item separately in the accounts for the consideration of the shareholders.

DIRECTORS.

Since the last general meeting the directors have had to deplore the death on the 12th of December last of Mr. H. Hoppius, who had for many years served on the Board. The Hon. J. J. Keswick and Mr. C. J. Holliday resigned their seats on their departure from the colony.

Mr. R. L. Richardson, of the firm of Messrs. Bradley & Co., was invited to join the Board.

In accordance with clause 86 of the articles of association, Messrs. D. R. Sassoon and G. B. Dodwell retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The Board regrets to have to record the death of Mr. Robert Lyall, who for over nine years was one of the Company's auditors. Mr. W. Hutton Potts was nominated to succeed him.

Messrs. J. H. Cox and W. Hutton Potts retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

GEORGE B. DODWELL, Chairman.

Hongkong, 10th October, 1895.

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1894.

30th June, 1895.	Dr.	\$	c.
To working account, balance on 30th June, 1894		623,901.24	
To net premium from 1st July to 31st December, 1894		735,706.77	
To interest		99,153.87	
To profit on investments realized		22,793.04	
Less loss on deposits with reconstructed Banks in Melbourne		3,009.88	
		19,783.16	
		\$1,478,545.04	

30th June, 1894.	Cr.	\$	c.
By agency commissions		24,737.46	
By agency charges		14,682.31	
By head office charges		31,235.26	
By Shanghai charges		13,068.19	
By London charges		52,296.38	
By Yokohama charges		6,184.56	
By Melbourne charges		10,180.21	
By remuneration for half-year ending 31st December, 1894, to directors		3,500.00	
To committees and auditors		6,545.66	
By losses and claims paid		550,862.15	
By exchange		443.40	
By bonus on contributions account 1894 (declared 19th April, 1895), 25 per cent.		325,632.28	
By balance		439,177.18	
		\$1,478,545.04	

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1895.

30th June, 1895.	Dr.	\$	c.
To net premium from 1st January to 30th June, 1895		888,547.34	
To interest		36,076.94	
To profit on investments realized		2,165.36	
		\$926,789.64	

30th June, 1895.	Cr.	\$	c.
By agency commissions		13,578.33	
By agency charges		9,263.47	
By head office charges		28,212.90	
By Shanghai charges		12,924.62	
By London charges		41,740.34	
By Yokohama charges		5,664.85	
By Melbourne charges		12,356.89	
By remuneration for half-year ending 30th June, 1895, to directors		3,500.00	
To committees and auditors		5,987.68	
By losses and claims paid		109,736.19	
By exchange		588.72	
By balance		683,236.15	
		\$926,789.64	

BALANCE SHEET, ON 30TH JUNE, 1895

Dr.	\$	c.
To capital 10,000 shares of \$250 each = \$2,500,000, upon which \$25 per share called and paid up	250,000.00	
To reserve fund	970,000.00	
To unclaimed bonus and dividend	23,132.38	
To exchange fluctuation account	724,366.65	
To investment fluctuation account, being the increase in market value of securities	167,813.00	
To working account 1894, balance	439,177.18	
To working account 1895, balance	683,236.15	
To sundry creditors	426,217.09	
	\$3,683,942.45	

Cr.	\$	c.
By cash on current account with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	81,510.00	
To cash on deposit, viz.:— Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	418,205.00	
Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	199,100.00	
Mercantile Bank of India, Limited	50,000.00	
	667,305.00	
By cash on mortgage, viz.:— In Hongkong	210,000.00	
In Shanghai	255,172.41	
	465,172.41	

By cash invested in debentures, viz.:—	\$	c.
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited	50,000.00	
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	6,620.69	
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co., Limited	206,896.55	
Shanghai Municipal loan	41,379.31	
	304,896.55	
By amount at debit of branches and agencies	1,932,007.18	

Including £128,303.33 invested in London in Consols, East India Government guaranteed railways, and other securities, £37,000 on deposit with Banks in London, £4,200.12.6 invested in Treasury bonds in Melbourne, £15,300 on deposit with Banks in Melbourne, and deducting £22,000 account bills on London not matured.	\$	c.
By bills receivable	16,616.82	
By bills remitted to London agency, 30th June account	50,138.25	
By sundry debtors	160,056.20	
	\$3,683,942.45	

The Lyceum Theatre at Shanghai is about to pass under new management, in reference to which the *N. C. Daily News* says:—The Lyceum, as a fabric, has hardly been kept up as it should of late, and its arrangements have become a little antiquated. It has now come into more active hands, those who have taken a lease of it having undertaken to pay the Trustees as a minimum the average annual rent that it has earned in the last five years and to spend on the theatre any surplus that a more active management will secure. Great improvements are contemplated in the interior as well as the exterior of the building, and meanwhile there is, as will be seen, to be a performance under the auspices of the two amateur clubs, French and English, to inaugurate the new tenancy. We wish it every success, for, after all, of our numerous winter amusements, the amenities which mitigate our exile, "the Play's the thing!"

H. G. BROWN & COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to shareholders at the sixth ordinary yearly meeting to be held at No. 27, Queen's Road, on the 24th October:—

The General Managers have to submit their report and a statement of the Company's accounts for the year 1894, and regret that these continue to show a disappointing and unfavourable result, the working account showing a loss of \$19,429.22, whilst the amount at debit of profit and loss account, including the sum of \$38,232.68 brought forward from 1893, now stands at \$66,204.35.

Much of this unfavourable result has been due to the disorganized state of the Company's affairs in the Philippines, consequent on the unavoidable changes which had to be made in the Company's staff there, and to this same cause is due to a large extent the great delay which has occurred in presenting these accounts.

Early this year a suggestion came from the shareholders resident in Manila that it would be advisable to transfer the management to that place, and, it being fully realised here in the light of events during the past few years since Mr. Brown gave up the management that adequate control could not be exercised from this end, this suggestion was gladly availed of as far as practicable, and a committee of management has been entrusted with the direction of the Company's affairs in the Philippines, the gentlemen nominated by the Manila shareholders as members of same being Messrs. E. H. Warner, J. Sloan, and J. C. Donaldson-Sim. These gentlemen have taken up the management very actively, and are busy reorganizing matters, and already hold out good promise of better results and a considerable curtailment in expenses. The thanks of the Company are due to them for their very valuable services.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Messrs. H. L. Dalrymple and D. R. Sassoon retire in accordance with the Company's articles of association, and do not offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Fullarton Henderson, who offers himself for re-election.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 5th October, 1895.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TO DECEMBER 31st, 1894.

LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Capital:—		
6,000 shares of \$50 each fully paid up	300,000.00	
Bills payable	3,000.00	
Sundry creditors	429.76	
Provision for bad debts	2,435.92	
	\$305,865.68	
ASSETS	\$	c.
Goodwill:—		
Amount paid H. G. Brown & Co. as per last account	41,400.00	
Plant:—		
Saw-mill erections machinery, &c.	48,759.10	
Schooner <i>Congo</i>	15,068.22	
Brig <i>Ching</i>	12,150.00	
Five line houses	11,550.44	
Steam launch <i>Lotus</i>	8,602.95	
Furniture	4,537.82	
Banahian cutting	9,528.12	
Mulonay cutting	390.64	
Boats, implements, stores, &c.	3,090.10	
Stocks of timber in Hongkong, Shanghai, and the Philippine Islands	38,636.50	
Stock of timber at the saw-mills	4,804.75	
Sundry debtors	29,032.18	
Varadera shares	5,250.00	
Cash in hand	822.87	
Deposit of duties:—		
Amount of duties deposited to be recovered	1,583.75	
Suspense account	472.50	
Insurance value of unexpired portion of policies	504.02	
Ship in course of construction (since completed)	1,821.88	
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, cash with	1,655.49	
Balance of profit and loss account	66,204.35	
	\$305,865.68	

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1894.

To salaries and wages	\$ 9,655.12
To charges	12,634.23
To saw-mills working	5,889.27
To exchange	4,067.43
To <i>Wm. Le Lacheur</i> working	2,438.85
To steam launch <i>Lotus</i> working	1,595.08
To office expenses, Hongkong	1,500.00
To interest	884.13
To telegrams	555.53
To repairs to property	222.25
To bad debts	161.98
To stationery	66.25
To auditor's fee	100.00
	\$39,770.12

By profit on sales of timber, &c., in the Philippines and with Agents	\$ 16,373.36
By profit on <i>Congo</i> and <i>Enrique</i> working	3,952.54
By scrip fees	16.00
By balance transferred to profit and loss account	19,429.22
	\$39,770.12

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 1894.

To amount brought forward from last account	\$ 38,232.68
To loss on sale of <i>Wm. Le Lacheur</i> s/v	6,963.21
To loss on sale of <i>Santiago</i> s/v	1,579.24
To balance of working account brought down	19,429.22
	\$66,204.35
By balance carried forward to a new account	\$ 66,204.35
	\$66,204.35

CORRESPONDENCE

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

AUSTRALIAN AND CHINA PONIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Dear Sir,—I notice in your issue of this morning that you mention the match between an Australian pony mare and Voltigeur which is to be run off this afternoon. You say this race should be of interest in view of the recent controversy as to the desirability of our having Australian ponies for the annual meeting instead of the usual China griffins. Since you have given publicity to the above statement you should also mention that the mare has had practically no preparation at all for the race (i.e. about twelve days' work) after a long sea voyage, whilst her opponent has been well and carefully trained. Therefore no conclusion whatever can be drawn from the result of this afternoon's match, which is simply a friendly trial between two sportsmen and is no criterion of the respective merits of Australian and China ponies.—Yours faithfully,

X. Y. Z.

Hongkong, 10th October, 1895.

THE MAHOMMEDAN REBELLION.

Shanghai, 10th October.

It is feared that there is some trouble at Hsianfu in Shensi, as telegraphic communication cannot be carried on between that city and Shanghai, a message sent a week ago remaining unanswered. It is not known whether there is trouble in Hsianfu, it may be that the Mahomedans and Chinese in the city have quarrelled and declared war against each other, or that the Mahomedan rebels in Kansu have advanced against the city and so cut off communication with the outside world. News received last night is as follows:—

A strong band of mounted banditti, said to number nearly 10,000 horse, led by one Li Tahu, i.e., "Li, the Great Tiger," a former Taiping or Nienfei rebel chief who has been in hiding ever since the sixties in Chinese Turkestan, have suddenly appeared in the neighbourhood of Pingan in the central portion of Shensi province, and have recently been carrying their depredations as far as the gates of the famous hill fortress barrier of

T'ungkuan in Honan, which forms the apex of the triangle formed by the borders of Shansi, Shensi, and Honan. In consequence of this telegraphic communication from Shanghai to Hsianfu, the capital of Shensi, has been partially interrupted by the cutting of the lines somewhere between Pingan and T'ungkuan. This difficulty is met by messages being despatched by mounted couriers, who pick their way from Pingan to T'ungkuan through the disturbed districts, and it therefore takes a telegram about thirty-six hours longer than usual to get to its destination. The telegrams are then sent on from T'ungkuan to Hsianfu or Laichou, the capital of Kansu, as the case may be. The present rising is denied by the mandarins to have any connection with the Mahomedan rebellion in Shenshan, the former being termed by them *T'ufei* or "local desperadoes," but then they also ignore the fact of the *Kolao Hut* being at the back of the Kansu Mussulmans.—N. C. Daily News.

THE POSITION OF LI HUNG-CHANG.

Opinions differ in regard to the position, influence, and power of the ex-Viceroy Li. Undoubtedly a large party both in and out of Peking is determined on his downfall, come what may. They appear to have had considerable success in their planning, yet their success is by no means secured. H.E. has had many reverses, yet like the animal with "nine lives" he has always "lit on his feet" and come to the top. With all his mistakes and faults and sins, when the emergency has arisen, somehow he has been the only man upon whom the Emperor could rely. So said an intelligent Chinaman in conversation with me a few days ago; and so it will be again, he said, for in the present complications and difficulties, he continued, no one understands the situation as well as Li, or has the real welfare of the nation as much at heart as he, or has the cool, penetrating judgment that he has. I am convinced that many who do not like Li, and long for some one in whom they have greater confidence to be in his place, feel this way, viz., that he is the best man available at present. His influence is not likely to be so manifest now that he is removed to Peking as formerly, but if the above opinions are correct, it may be even more powerful and effective by promoting more correct views in the capital. We will hope that this may be the case, for there is infinite opportunity for improvement.—N. C. Daily News Tientsin correspondent.

A FOREIGN ALLIANCE FOR JAPAN.

Home politics are either quiescent or barred. So to fill up their columns our Japanese contemporaries resort to the discussion of a foreign alliance. This is an ever-fruitle theme and very quaint—we will not call them exaggerated—are some of the comments. Europeans judging of Japanese intelligence by these articles would form a very false estimate of the mental qualifications of the more thoughtful politicians. In point of fact the arguments of the Japanese journalists on this subject are wholly misleading as a standard whereby to measure the intellectual attainments of the writers. They start on a false assumption. Take, for instance, the latest utterances of the *Nichi Nichi*. Captured subjects that journal is perfectly sane; only when it debates the propriety of a foreign alliance that doubts of its mental equilibrium gather substance. It immediately takes for granted, as all other Japanese papers do, that Russia and England are both anxiously courting a Japanese alliance and that whoever Japan decides to honour will receive her with acclaim. Nothing could be further from the truth. Great Empires like England and Russia are very chary in their choice of friends and very rarely enter into alliances. It is open to question at this moment whether between France and Russia anything more than a friendly understanding exists. The French press clutch at all kinds of straws to convince the world that the alliance has any existence outside the heated imaginations of Parisian journalists, and, as lately as September 20th, hailed the fact that Prince Lobanoff was to witness the French review

of troops with delight as a much needed proof that what they so eagerly desire is a reality. Thus it cannot be positively affirmed that Russia has agreed to an offensive and defensive alliance. England on her part, though tempted by similarity of aims, close social ties, and identical interests, has always hesitated to join the strongest alliance the world has ever witnessed. If she once threw in her lot with the Triple Alliance a combination would be formed which could defy all other possible combinations. Yet she hesitates and holds aloof. Thus neither Russia nor England is very keen in forming alliances, yet the Japanese, with six or eight cruisers more or less formidable and an army that finds an immense difficulty in subjugating Formosa, write as if Japan has only to advertise her terms to receive immediate applications for a partnership.

There is an old fable of a giant and a dwarf who entered into a contract to fight their battles together. They encountered many enemies and each time came off victorious. But in their numerous fights the dwarf had lost an eye, an arm, and a leg, whereas his ally had hardly suffered a scratch. "One more battle," said the giant, "and our victory will be complete. Great fame will be ours." "No," sadly replied the dwarf, "I fight no more battles. I cannot afford to lose another limb, even to win a victory." If Japan joins Russia in an alliance against England the result is likely to be not dissimilar. Japan could not assist Russia in the Baltic or the Mediterranean, where the decisive sea battles would be fought, and if the Russian ships were defeated England could then send to the East such a fleet as would crush Japan's sea power for half a century, while Russia, secure in her huge territorial dominions, would be comparatively little injured. Another point for the Japanese to remember is that a fight between England and Russia would not be one between an elephant and a whale, as they frequently assert, but between a bear and an amphibious animal equally at home on land or sea. Russia is less likely to invade India in case of war than England is to invade Central Asia, with Chitral as a base. Japan's friend is clearly the nation which can render her most assistance and offers least resistance to her expansion. Russia in Korea will be a much more dangerous neighbour than England at Hongkong. England offered no opposition to the acquisition of Formosa nor to the retention of the Liaotung Peninsula. Was that the attitude of one who in future hoped to be an enemy or a friend? It was a friendly act, and the Japanese know it. But when the *Nichi Nichi* proceeds to add that "were there a prospect of getting India there might be sense" in a Russo-Japan alliance, it is neither talking in a friendly tone nor sensibly. If Japan's ambition soars so high it will have a bad fall. It looks as if some Japanese want the earth. If they do, and can imbue the nation at large with their own ambition, they will one day be satisfied. If they want the earth they will get it, to every man five feet by two, or perhaps five feet six by two, to the taller soldiers from Sendai.—*Japan Gazette*.

HONGKONG.

Cooler weather has at length set in and the season of cricket and football commenced. On Thursday and Friday a collision case was heard in the Colonial Court of Admiralty. The Sanitary Board met on Thursday afternoon and the question of having a medical officer attached to the Board again cropped up. The concluding Gynkhama meeting on Saturday was the most successful of the season. A number of griffins have arrived, and there are prospects of some good racing next year. A Norwegian seaman was murdered on the 6th inst., and two boat people have been charged with the capital offence.

There were 2,055 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 187 were Europeans.

The death rate last month was, for the British and Foreign community, civil population, 21.4, and for the Chinese community 26.3.

The inquiry respecting the fire which broke out on the 5th inst. at 162, Hollywood Road, was closed by Hon. H. E. Wodehouse on Wednesday. There were no suspicious circumstances.

Nine Australian ponies for the Yokohama Race Club arrived by the *Chingtu* on Friday.

The stamp revenue last month amounted to \$24,037, being an increase of \$7,244 on the amount collected in the corresponding month of last year.

Regulations made by the Governor in Council under the Building Ordinance, with reference to the construction of verandahs, are published in Saturday's *Gazette*.

The maximum temperature last month was 94, on the 6th, and the minimum 65.6, on the 30th. The mean for the month was 80.1. The rainfall amounted to 3.965 inches.

A match between Mr. Hart Buck's Voltigeur and Mr. Manners' Australian mare, recently imported, was decided at the Happy Valley on Thursday afternoon. The distance was half-a-mile. The Australian mare led the whole way and won by half a length.

Some time ago a boy was whipped at Victoria Gaol for committing a theft, and on Friday he was met on Praya West by a man who asked him to steal again. The juvenile replied that the punishment he had received for a former offence had been a warning to him, and he declined to steal again. The man then struck him, and robbed him of 140 cash. The blackguard was taken before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse on Saturday and sent to gaol for six weeks with hard labour.

Eleven griffins which arrived from Shanghai on Sunday were drawn for at Mr. Kennedy's town establishment on Monday afternoon. The ponies are an exceptionally level lot and in the trials recorded very good times. The following was the result of the draw:—1, brown, Mr. Cruickshank; 2, brown, Mr. Darby; 3, bay, Mr. Marshall; 4, dark grey, Captain Bethune; 5, grey, Mr. Hohnke; 6, brown, Dr. Lowson; 7, brown with white legs, Mr. Fullerton; 8, dun, Major Moore; 9, grey, Mr. Firth; 11, grey, Mr. Kramer. Of course it is impossible at present to form an accurate idea of the merits of the ponies, but the prevailing opinion seemed to be that the pony drawn by Mr. Fullerton and the one drawn by Major Moore were the most promising.

The Victoria Recreation Club boat race on Saturday afternoon was witnessed by a large number of members. Four crews entered for the event, but unfortunately one of Mr. Hayward's men was ill, and consequently only three boats—*Thistle*, *Shamrock*, and *Rose*—started. The course was from the rocks to the usual winning post, a distance of three-quarters of a mile. A good start was made, and the *Thistle* soon obtained a lead, closely followed by the *Shamrock*. At the torpedo depot the *Rose* fell out of the race, and the *Thistle* won by a quarter of a length. The following were the crews:—*Thistle*—J. B. Grimes, T. Meek, G. Mollison, A. A. Alves. *Shamrock*—E. D. Sanders, A. H. Barlow, J. C. Cameron, E. E. Deacon. *Rose*—R. F. Lammert, F. Lammert, W. A. Stopani, T. Consumji. Mr. G. C. Hayward was judge, and Mr. W. H. Potts starter.

The following by-law has been made by the Governor in Council under the Cattle Diseases, Slaughter-houses, and Markets Ordinance, 1887:—No flesh meat (salted and tinned meats excepted), other than that which has been slaughtered in the Colonial slaughter-house maintained and regulated under the provisions of Ordinance 17 of 1887, shall be exposed for sale in any of the markets of the colony. The Sanitary Board may, however, from time to time, grant permission in writing, revocable at the discretion of the Board, to any person being a holder of a shop or stall in any public market to expose for sale in such shop or stall fresh flesh meat which has been imported from Shanghai, Japan, Canada, or Australia, or from such other localities as the Board may from time to time approve; such permission shall state the name of the person to whom it is granted, the class or description of meat permitted, and the shop or stall on which such meat is to be exposed for sale. It is further provided that the holder of a shop or stall to whom such permission has been granted shall cause a board to be posted on the shop or stall, in a conspicuous position, stating in English and Chinese that he deals in imported meat, and he shall also make a true return to the Board every month of the quantity of meat imported by him, specifying from what place.

The appointment of Dr. Francis William Clark to be Medical Officer of Health for the colony is gazetted. Dr. Clark is not gazetted as a member of the Sanitary Board.

The landing place at Wardley Street, was opened yesterday morning. The structure is of wood, is substantially made, and has two sets of steps, nineteen on each side. There has been a good deal of justifiable grumbling at the lack of landing accommodation along the Praya, and the pier opened yesterday will serve to considerably relieve the overcrowding which has been a constant source of complaint at New Pedder's Wharf.

On Friday afternoon a number of gentlemen met at Mr. H. E. Pollock's chambers to re-organise the Hongkong Chess Club, which was started last year, but ceased to have a proper existence. Mr. Pollock presided and explained that there was a balance to the credit of the Club of \$7.85. He read a list of gentlemen who had promised to join the Club and hoped that the list would be considerably added to in order that the Club might be founded on a substantial basis. A Committee was appointed to carry out the necessary arrangements, and it is expected that the first meeting will be held in about a fortnight in a room to be set apart for the use of club members. In the meantime those residents who wish to join the Club are requested to send their names to Mr. Pollock.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

A house in the village of Ho-lik, in the Tung-kun district, was plundered by a band of soldiers, who broke into the house and sought out all the valuables. Just as they were leaving the house they were surrounded and attacked by a number of villagers, who on hearing the alarm given had come out with their guns. The thieves tried to break through and escape. At last one thief was shot dead. The robbers tried to get back the dead body, but failed. The dead body was then carried away by the villagers, who at last discovered that it was that of a woman in the disguise of a man.

The Magistrate of Pun-u issued a notification on the 4th instant concerning six houses and a piece of ground in Whampoa, belonging to Lo Hok-pang, the runaway comrade of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The property was already recognised by the late Magistrate of Pun-u as the property of Lo Hok-pang, but Lo Ching-shi, a relative of Lo Hok-pang, claimed that four of the said houses belonged to her. She was asked by the authorities to give a satisfactory statement to substantiate her claims, but failed. The new Magistrate has now issued another notification to the effect that the houses are to be offered for sale.

On the 7th instant four notorious robbers were arrested in a brothel in Tai-ho-ki, in Canton. When they were in the brothel some men who also paid a visit there identified them as robbers who had robbed their house lately. They at once ran to give information to the soldiers in a station near by. As soon as the soldiers got to the brothel, the robbers, knowing that they came for their arrest, immediately drew out their revolvers and fired at the soldiers, who returned the compliment. One soldier was shot dead, but all the four robbers were captured.

Though the fantan gambling has been already brought to an end by Governor Ma Pi-in, yet gambling in the Pak-kop and Tse-fa lotteries is still busily carried on. Chang Yun-tsun, the new Provincial Judge, discovered this and now he is trying to put a stop to it also.

Owing to the strike of the salt-fish guild, the authorities sent some San-sz to settle the matter. The salt-fish guild promised to pay 200,000 taels to the Government if no likin duty is imposed. The matter is still under consideration and has not been settled.

We (*N. C. Daily News*) learn that Commander Barber, U.S.N., fearing that his health would not support the 1,700 miles land journey from Tientsin to Chêngtu, has resigned his post on the Chêngtu Commission, and that Admiral Carpenter has appointed Lieut. Commander John P. Merrell, of the U.S.S. *Baltimore*, in his stead.

HANGCHOW.

30th September.

The one thing which has distinguished this month above others, is the severe epidemic which raged during the first part of it. The disease was cholera, and was sharp and quick in its work. People would fall in the street with it. They would be taken with it at bed time, say, and die before daylight. The natives called it the disease that causes the tips of the fingers to draw up—shriveled up. They turned blue around the nails. It is hard to form any satisfactory estimate of the number who died, but it is put down as five thousand. The disease has abated now.

There is much talk among the people of the foreign settlement which is to be located, as every one thinks, just beyond the Great Customs Barrier, outside the northern suburb. The spirit of speculation has struck some of the people, and property in that neighbourhood is now on a boom. Waste ground that under ordinary circumstances would bring ten dollars a *mow* has sold as high as one thousand dollars a *mow*. It is true that the whole price is not paid down, but only one-tenth of it, with the understanding that the rest is to be paid "if they strike oil," if not the amount paid is lost by the purchaser. The people are talking extravagantly about railroads, foreign houses, manufactures, etc. To hear them talk, there is no telling what will be done in the foreign settlement, in the near future. The truth of the matter is that nothing whatever has been done, so far. It seems to indicate, however, that the people are interested in the matter, and, in my opinion, they are quite ready and anxious for the day of improvements to come. There is a great deal of latent energy and enterprise among the great mass of the people, the middle classes, merchants, and artisans, but it is suppressed and smothered by the great weight of the mandarin, which rests as an immense incubus upon the people. It seems to me that there is abundant proof that if the people were allowed to act for themselves, and had the assurance that their rights in property and various enterprises would be respected and protected, that they would quickly furnish both the capital and the brains to inaugurate and carry on various grand works of improvement. From all appearance the middle class really want to engage in such work. At least that is the drift of their talk. The officials of this city have recently put out proclamations with the late Imperial Edict embraced in them. It was done, however, in the name of one of the military officers, whereas our native friends think it should have been done under the seal of the Governor himself.

Everything is very quiet here, though there is considerable talk about Formosa and the gallant fight the little island is making with the Japanese. It surprises me to hear nothing about the Kucheng massacre, but my native friends tell me that there is but little known about it among the people. They do not seem to have got hold of the facts, or facts do not seem to have made any impression on their mind. A native pastor was telling me, a few days ago, of a letter he has received from the pastor of a church in a town called New Market, about fifty miles from here. He wrote that the magistrate of the district had paid a visit to the town and in his talk with the gentry, among other things, he said: "Why do you not destroy this church here, as the people of my province, Fukien, have lately done down there?" The gentry replied:—"Oh! this church has been here a long time and has done us no harm, but we would like you to remove the Hunan men from our midst." The pastor of the church vouches for the story, as one of the friendly gentry told it directly to one of the native Christians. He remarked that the magistrate was quite taken aback by the reply he got and was not able to make any reply himself.

On the other hand, one of the C.M.S. missionaries was telling us that there had been petty persecution at one of their out-stations in a very small town, and he sent a polite note to the magistrate of that district calling his attention to the fact, and the next day proclamations with the Imperial Edict were put up and protection guaranteed.—N. C. Daily News correspondent.

CHEFOO.

28th September.

We have now for some time been enjoying the normal bright, sunny weather tempered by cool northerly breezes which makes Chefoo in autumn such a delightful resort; and this is the more agreeable inasmuch as the past summer has been most abnormally wet, chilly, and unhealthy. These depressing climatic conditions and the unusual amount of sickness, both among foreigners and in the native town, combined to deprive the season of much of its gaiety; very little leave has been granted to the crews of the various warships which for months have crowded the anchorage, the U.S. flagship's band has never, until the last two days, been allowed on shore; very reasonable restrictions, considering how unhealthy the native town has been; and the beach in consequence has never presented the festive appearance which was its ordinary condition last summer. The number of visitors, however, has been larger than ever before; the hotels and boarding houses have been crowded to their utmost capacity, and the demand for bungalows and furnished apartments has been far in excess of the supply. There has in consequence been quite a small boom in landed property; most of the land skirting the east beach is now owned by foreigners, and by next summer there will probably be several new bungalows ready for hire.

On 12th September a party from H.M.S. *Aeolus* attempted to remove, with dynamite, the pinnacle rock which, visible only at neap tides, has of recent years damaged many a man-of-war's boat as it made, in careless security, for the beach just opposite the Chefoo Club. An immense column of water was flung up to a height of over a hundred feet, affording a charming spectacle to a crowd of interested on-lookers, but an expert who chanced to be among these declared that this same lovely spectacle made him certain that the energy of the dynamite had not been expended in the right direction; and subsequent inspection showed that the rock had only been cracked. Possibly the winter gales will complete the work begun by man. A much more dangerous reef in the inner harbour, running out in front of the Savage Club, has now been buoyed; none too soon, as many a steam pinnacle, and other boats as well, has come to grief upon it.

The last two days have been given up entirely to racing; for many weeks our conversation, alike at the Club bar and at the dinner-table, has been monotonously equine. The more vigorous of us have been conceited every forenoon and sleepy every afternoon, as a result of turning out long before sunrise and exercising our ponies along the west beach or round the race course, when the latter was not under water, as during August was only too often the case. The death of our popular Commissioner's crack, Bedad, better known to the hippophilist public as Plebeian, on 5th September, from an acute attack of colic, was a cause of general regret and sympathy with a man whose sportsmanlike character and native energy, well backed up by one or two others of like mind, prevented the breaking this year of the annual fixture which since his arrival amongst us has wound up the Chefoo season with a few days of healthy and delightful recreation. The report, however, shows that this personal loss was really a public benefit, as otherwise the "B's" might have swept the board, leaving very few crumbs to the other competitors. The equally sudden sickness of our other leading owner's (Mr. Hokee's) crack, Recruit, on the day before the races, roused general interest and sympathy, and had it ended equally unhappily would have excited unpleasant suspicions as to the integrity of mafeos, etc.; fortunately it proved very evanescent, and served only to stimulate the ambition of the small owners.

On 22nd September H.M.S. *Swift* arrived from Tientsin, and on 25th H.M.S. *Rattler*, from Newchwang, where they appear to have had a very gay time. H.M.S. *Archer* left early on the 27th for Woosung, very unexpectedly. Admiral Carpenter's fleet, consisting of the *Baltimore*, *Yorktown*, *Concord*, and *Petrel* has been here now for some time, busily engaged in various drills, steam tactics, etc. A great many American officers thronged the Grand Stand and the enclosure; the flagship's

band was most kindly offered to the Stewards by the Admiral, and its music, after our long musical famine, added immensely to our pleasure. On the 26th, next day, unhappily, a high N.E. wind detained it on board. The Admiral and officers, hitherto hardly acquainted with the Chefoo public, and almost unaware that a race meeting was in progress, as racing matters had not been pressed on their attention, amply made up for lost time, and this afternoon a U.S. Naval Cup is to be raced for. The humours of the Off Day I must leave for record in my next letter.—N. C. Daily News correspondent.

CHUNGKING.

24th September.

Affairs in general here remain quiet, and we hear of no more riots at fixed dates. Opinion among experienced residents is divided as to whether this state of things is merely the ominous calm before the storm or whether the wave of excitement has passed by, perhaps to break upon some less fortunate locality. After the recent terrible events in other part of China, and the apparent apathy of the British Government in securing redress, the residents at unprotected outposts may well harbour gloomy forebodings for their reputation and safety. Fortunately the vigilance of the authorities has never relaxed, and we shall probably never know how much they have done for us. They are not in the habit of putting their good deeds into print, or even of defending themselves against the wild charges sometimes made by excited foreigners, very often without understanding the limitations of official power. It is enough to say that the officials here have done all that could be expected of them, and perhaps more. The retention of the Taotai in office has unquestionably had a good effect, and has served to prop up the fragment that is yet left of foreign prestige. Further developments of the anti-foreign spirit will depend upon the treatment accorded to previous demonstrations, and the present calm is probably due to a desire to find out if it is safe to proceed a little further without upsetting the equanimity of the foreign powers. Under these circumstances it is hardly necessary to say that all interested are looking forward, in many cases not without considerable anxiety, to the decision respecting the recent outrages.

There are, however, two sides to every question, and, even at the risk of being denounced as an "advocate of the devil," it may not be out of place to present briefly the Chinese side of the case. From time immemorial the Chinese have arrogated to themselves the right of ejecting those whom they consider undesirable members of their community. This right, or supposed right, is frequently exercised in the case of natives, including officials, and there is no apparent reason why foreigners should be exempt from the popular mandate. Now the Chinese do not like foreigners of any sort, and they actively dislike any attempt at religious propagandism. It is not because the general behaviour of foreigners is such as to render them undesirable residents among the Chinese, but because they are strongly suspected of ulterior motives that they are unpopular. A Chinaman is said always to have an object in view which governs his every act, and it is quite incredible to him that foreigners should try to change his religion and customs without some deep-seated scheme for their own aggrandisement and his consequent injury. In ejecting missionaries from this province they have only exercised what they supposed to be their right and they would probably be intensely surprised to find their action resented by the foreign governments concerned. It is true that foreigners have been misrepresented to the people, their action proceeded from erroneous beliefs nevertheless, considering the ignorance and credulity of the people, and the terrible nature of the charges circulated against foreigners, we may well be surprised at their moderation in clearing off the whole lot without bloodshed. The despatch of an armed force would no doubt overawe the people who have had no experience of the summary fashion in which foreign troops deal with such matters. The Chinese idea of settling a disputed

question is to meet in a tea-house and thresh the affair out by means of logic and arguments. Force will not convince a Chinaman that he is in the wrong, and the sacking of a city or a gross act of vandalism, such as the burning of the summer Palace, will only confirm the Chinese in their conviction that foreigners are mere barbarians and ignorant of all propriety. At the present moment the Chinese, through their officials, are willing to allow that they could have got rid of the missionaries without the use of so much violence, and thus have offered to pay for the damage done, provided the missionaries do not attempt to return. The native opinion is that this is an eminently fair offer. They offer no objection to the ruthless extermination of all bad characters, whether of high or low rank. In the meantime, pending reform and readjustment of the conditions under which they live, the foreign residents are taking every precaution to minimise possible dangers. The various missions have guards quartered upon them, and their compounds present quite a warlike appearance with the gay uniforms of the braves. Appearances, however, may not count for much, for it is hardly reasonable to expect a man, whether in soldier's uniform or not, to fight his own countrymen and, it may be even, relatives for the protection of a foreigner who has no claim on him, and whom he believes to be guilty of evil practices and the preacher of corrupt doctrines. The Customs are not content with their previous force, but have enrolled a small army of their own, which is armed with modern rifles and drilled in an efficient manner by Professor Myers. They present a very creditable appearance, and no doubt would give a good account of themselves if called upon to defend government property and led by their captain. The compound where the Customs' quarters are situated presents an appearance calculated to strike terror into the heart of the boldest invader. Packs containing handy clubs are distributed at the entrance, and various instruments, which recall the good old times of the Holy Inquisition, are spread around in a careless manner, as if to indicate that there were plenty more inside. All this, and more, is likely to appeal powerfully to Chinese ideas, and in the event of a disturbance the Customs' compound will be carefully avoided in favour of some place where there are none but women and children without means of defence. These, and the remainder of the residents, should therefore rally round the Customs, where no doubt they will receive a hearty welcome in time of danger. Indeed it is reported that one reverend gentleman who had been rather loud in announcing that his sole guide and shield was One above, was so alarmed not long ago that he rallied there all by himself, and was with difficulty convinced that all hope was not lost.—*Mercury* correspondent.

KOREA.

28th September. Political affairs in Seoul are just as they were three years ago. The Queen is all powerful, and her relatives are all being appointed to the best positions. Even Min Yeng-chun, the Queen's cousin, who was in reality responsible for most of the misgovernment of ante-bellum days has been pardoned and has already returned to Seoul. I very much question whether it will be long before he is reappointed to office. Japanese influence seems to be at an end. Whether this is due to a voluntary abandonment of the former policy or whether due to advice from a stronger Power it is impossible to say. The fact remains, however, that although there are more than forty Japanese advisers to the various departments in Seoul their advice is neither asked nor wanted.

The new Minister Miura has brought over to Korea with him three million yen as Korea's share of the indemnity, part of which sum is to be distributed amongst the districts which suffered. I also hear, but whether true or not I am unable to say, that one of the conditions of the present of this three million yen is that two millions are to be spent on railways. Count Inouye left for Japan on 21st September.—*N. C. Daily News* correspondent.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Major-General Yamane, who recently succumbed to illness while at Formosa, has been accorded posthumous honours. He has been raised to the rank of Baron and promoted from the Fourth Junior Class to the Fourth Senior Class of Honour.

According to a Japanese vernacular paper, the other day when the German ship *Irene* was engaged in target practice off Hakodate, she ran down a Japanese fishing boat, containing ten fishermen. The matter has been settled by the payment of yen 200 by the Germans.

Work on the large naval dock was commenced at Kure the other day. The dimensions of the dock are, length 141 metres, breadth 28.38 metres in the upper part and 24.725 metres below, with a depth of 13.4 metres. Vessels under 15,000 tons will be able to enter the dock. It is expected that the work will be completed in the next fiscal year.

"The Man in the Road" says in the *Peking and Tientsin Times*:—I happened to be walking in the Park the other day, when I saw two distinguished diplomats sitting on a seat constructed in one of the old cages, and over their heads was written in English and Chinese, "Please do not tease the animals."

We (*Japan Mail*) understand that the position of Japanese Secretary of the United States Legation in Tokyo has been resigned by Dr. N. Whitney, and that his successor is Mr. R. S. Miller, who has been discharging the post during Dr. Whitney's leave of absence. Dr. Whitney's resignation is due, we believe, to his desire to devote himself entirely to missionary labours in Japan.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *Mercury* says:—It is reported that Mr. Detring will follow his son-in-law on a holiday trip to Germany. His friend and patron Herr von Brandt is reported to be anxious to see him. His absence, should he take his holiday, will be a serious loss to Sir Robert Hart, to the community, and to Sheng Taotai. The Chinese Engineering, Mining, and Railway Company, whose mainstay he and Herr Krupp have been since 1893, will also miss him. All here will heartily wish him and his family a *bon voyage* and speedy return to Tientsin.

Rev. Gilbert Reid writes from Peking under date August 29th, 1895:—An official of much influence, belonging to the company of censors, has lately made of me as a friend a peculiar request. He evidently believes that in the Churches, and especially the Roman Catholic Church, there is a practice of digging out the eyes and hearts of children. He is willing to acknowledge that foreigners do not do such things, but he fears that natives of evil purposes and with magical powers have crept into the Church, and under cover wrought these horrid deeds. He therefore requested me to exhort all the missionaries to beware of receiving such men, and if they should be found to be at once turned out of the Church. I replied that I could guarantee there were no such men in our Protestant missions, but that I would urge all the missionaries to be careful not to receive any kind of suspicious and unreliable man. So beware! I write these notes in all sincerity. This official is one of my best friends; he is a man of sterling character, and he laments the horrors practised on little children. I am exerting myself to scatter his fears and suspicions, but I fear my powers of persuasion will be insufficient. In the riots of 1890 and 1891 the Prefect of Chinkiang, a man of highest literary honours and reputed as upright, testified that he saw seventy bodies of dead children thus mutilated at the French Catholic mission (possibly meaning Tanyang). He petitioned the Viceroy at Nanking; a petition also went to the Tsungli Yamen, and a memorial to the throne. This friend of mine believes this testimony to be true, and I have no proofs on the other side save reason. Will he believe my reason rather than the eyewitness of this learned Chinaman? Anyway I believe it is incumbent on all missionaries to be doubly careful as to the persons baptized, that no stain rest upon the living Church of God. Better fewer but more trustworthy members.—*Chinese Recorder*.

A determined attempt at suicide on the part of a Japanese military officer is reported. An Otsu despatch of the 1st inst. says:—When the up train, which left Baba Station this morning at five o'clock, was passing over the Seta bridge (on Lake Biwa), a man in one of the cars got through the window and jumped into the lake. He was at once picked up by some fishermen, and it was then discovered that he was Lieutenant Oyamada, belonging to the First (Tokyo) Division. No reason is given for the desperate act.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1895-96 lbs.	1894-95 lbs.
Canton and Macao	4,517,716	4,116,765
Foochow	11,175,408	14,357,248
Shanghai and Hankow	15,872,867	15,869,065
	31,565,991	34,343,078

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96 lbs.	1894-95 lbs.
Amoy	7,967,866	10,395,668
Foochow	6,066,651	4,626,555
Shanghai	18,787,864	18,751,678
	32,822,381	33,773,901

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1895-96 lbs.	1894-95 lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai	27,040,968	22,555,223

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96 lbs.	1894-95 lbs.
Yokohama	25,891,598	23,755,433
Kobe	15,901,783	13,666,790
	41,793,381	37,422,223

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 10th October.—(From Messrs. Cronie and Burkill's circular.)—London telegrams to the 8th inst. report a firm market. Quotations without change. Raw Silk.—A large business has been passing during the week under review, and settlements reach about 2,500 bales. Holders have been able to establish a considerable rise in prices notwithstanding exchange having steadily gone up and is quoted this a.m. 8/1½ and fcs. 8.92 for 6 m/s doc. paper on London and Paris respectively. Tsatles.—There has been a very strong demand for Tsatles, principally of No. 4 and lower grades. The advance on these qualities is Tls. 7½ to 10 per picul and holders are firm. Double Silver Elephant has been sold at Tls. 360, and Mountain 4 at Tls. 390. Taysaams.—Are in fair request at firm rates which show no alteration on last week's quotations. Yellow Silks.—Are unchanged with a small daily business. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns from the 4th to the 9th current, are 1,706 bales of white, 134 bales of Yellow, and 83 bales of Wild Silk. Reels and Filatures.—Have gone rather quieter. In China Filatures ordinary reel Pegasus have been contracted for at Tls. 520, 510, and 500 for Nos. 1, 2 and 3. Wild Silks.—Prices of Tassah Raw are firm, though the business done is on a small scale. Waste Silk.—The market has been more active. Hankow Frisonets have been taken at Tls. 16.65 to 19.25 for whole bales, according to quality. Curries, usual assortment, have changed hands at Tls. 59. Honan 1 at Tls. 66½, No. 2 Tls. 19½. Pongees.—No business reported. Purchases include:—Tsatles.—Buffalo 3 at Tls. 442½, Mountain 3 at Tls. 412½, Mountain 4 at Tls. 390, Gold Elephant at Tls. 405, Gold Lion at Tls. 382½, Gold Kiling at Tls. 455, Silver Double Elephant at Tls. 357½, Blue Phoenix at Tls. 342½, Stork Chaying at Tls. 320. Hangchow Tsatles.—Lanbock and Lanping proportion price at Tls. 327½. Taysaam.—Gr. Kahing M at Tls. 342½, MM at Tls. 815, 9/12 Moss Double Butterfly 1 at Tls. 332½. Chincum.—Peach Tree 2 at Tls. 323½. Yellow Silk.—Mienchow at Tls. 255 to Tls. 262½, Kopun at Tls. 247½, Meeyang at Tls. 236½. Filature.—Pegasus 1, 2 & 3 at Tls. 520, Tls. 510 to Tls. 500.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1895-96	1894-95
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	29,933	18,655
Canton	8,118	6,252
Yokohama	9,749	6,270
	47,700	31,177

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1895-96	1894-95
	bales.	bales.
Canton	5,508	3,533
Shanghai	4,372	2,712
Yokohama	9,688	6,260
	19,503	12,525

HONGKONG, 15th October.—Another advance has to be reported. Quotations for Formosa are \$96.50 to \$97.00. During the past week sales have been 150 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 15th October.—The market continues weak and prices have further declined. Following are the quotations:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.20 to 7.23	per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.82 to 6.85	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.71 to 4.74	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.58 to 4.61	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.14 to 7.17	"
do. " 2, White...	6.75 to 6.78	"
do. " 1, Brown...	4.40 to 4.42	"
Swatow, No. 2, Brown...	4.25 to 4.28	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	11.00 to 11.50	"
Shekloong	8.65 to 9.70	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The steamer *Glenfalloch*, Hongkong to London, 2nd October, took:—550 boxes Tea (9,240 lbs. Congou, 1,200 lbs. Scented Orange Pekoe), 1,930 bales Hemp, 420 bales Waste Silk, 225 casks Preserves, 250 cases Preserves, 92 cases Mother-of-pearl Shells, and 8 cases Bristles.

The British ship *Lyndhurst*, Hongkong to San Francisco, 3rd October, took:—15,775 bags Rice, 4,680 bags Sugar, 4,222 empty Quicksilver Flasks, 2,677 packages Tea, 1,516 rolls Matting, 952 bags Rice Flour, 958 casks Golden Syrup, 739 bags Tapioca, 426 bales Gunnies, 392 bags Black Pepper, 350 boxes Nut Oil, 300 bags Coffee, 200 boxes Pine Apples, 167 bales Cassia, 161 bales Gambier, 100 boxes Palm Leaf Fans, 98 packages Rattan Furniture, 50 casks Cement, 86 packages Wooden Ware, 29 packages Rattan, 75 packages Fire Crackers, and 15,835 Merchandise.

The P. & O. steamer *Rosetta*, Hongkong to London, 10th October, took:—100 baskets Lily Bristles from Amoy, 200 bales Waste Silk, 2 bales Raw Silk, 44 bales Rattan, 4 cases Silks, 200 rolls Matting, 5 cases Cigars, and 3 packages Sundries; for France:—749 bales Waste Silk, 68 bales Pierced Cocoons, and 2 cases Silk Piece Goods; for Odessa:—5 bales Raw Silk.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 15th October.—Bengal.—The market has continued steady and a small advance in prices has been established. New Patna closes at \$737½, New Benares at \$742½, and Old Benares at \$700.

Malwa.—There has not been any change in rates during the week. Business has been steady to the average the following are the closing figures:—
New Patna \$89 with a balance of 0 to 3 cts.
Old Patna \$87½
New Benares \$742½
Old Benares \$700

Persian.—There has been a change. Latest quotations are \$800 to \$810 for Oily and \$740 to \$840 for Paper-wrapped according to quality.

	New Patna	New Benares	Old Benares	Malwa
New Patna	1,760 chests			
New Benares	380			
Old Benares	19			
Malwa	750			
Persian	650			

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1895.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Oct. 9	735	—	737½	700	690	720/730
Oct. 10	740	—	745	705	665	720/730
Oct. 11	732½	—	712½	705	690	720/730
Oct. 12	732½	—	740	705	690	720/730
Oct. 13	735	—	740	705	690	720/730
Oct. 14	735	—	740	705	690	720/730
Oct. 15	737½	—	742½	700	690	720/730

RICE.

HONGKONG, 15th October.—The market is dull, with declining rates. Closing quotations are:—

	per picul.
Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.05 to 2.07
" Round, good quality	2.40 to 2.42
" Long	2.54 to 2.56
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	2.07 to 2.10
" Garden, " No. 1	2.51 to 2.54
Siam White	2.92 to 2.95
" Fine Cargo	3.15 to 3.18

COALS.

HONGKONG, 15th October.—The market still continues weak. Small business reported. Quotations are:—

Cardiff	\$12.00 to 13.00	ex ship, nominal.
Australian	7.50 to 8.00	ex gdn., sales.
Milke Lump	5.75 to 6.00	ex ship, nominal.
Milke Small	5.00 to 5.25	ex ship, nominal.
Moji Lump	4.00 to 5.25	ex ship, nominal.
Kebao Lump	6.00 to 7.00	ex ship, nominal.
Kebao Small	4.00 to 4.50	ex ship, nominal.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 9th October.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn*.—50 bales No. 8 at \$69 to \$70, 470 bales No. 10 at \$69 to \$76.50, 695 bales No. 12 at \$71 to \$79, 25 bales No. 16 at \$88.50, 1,045 bales No. 20 at \$85.50 to \$92. *Grey Shirtings*.—1,000 pieces 11 lbs. Coloured Hunt at \$3.65, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Teapot at \$2.37½. *White Shirtings*.—250 pieces Spear Man at \$5.20, 600 pieces Fan chop at \$4.90, 2,500 pieces Black Peach at \$2.20. *T-Cloths*.—300 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Red Joss at \$2.17½. *Turkey Reds*.—400 pieces 4½ lbs. Fluteman at \$3.10, 200 pieces 4 lbs. Fluteman at \$3. *Velvets*.—200 pieces Black 22 inches Bee Nest at \$0.21½, 150 pieces 22 inches Purple Dragon at \$0.23½, 150 pieces 18 inches Purple Dragon at \$0.23½. *Velveteens*.—48 pieces Black 18 inches at \$0.17½, 168 pieces 22 inches at \$0.17½. *Spanish Stripes*.—180 pieces B.B.B. assorted at \$0.61½. *Long Ells*.—250 pieces 8 lbs. Scarlet at \$7, 400 pieces 9 lbs. Scarlet at \$7.20 to \$7.30, 400 pieces 10 lbs. Scarlet at \$7.90. *Combeds*.—80 pieces B.B.B. Dark Blue at \$27.25, 100 pieces 3 Fish assorted at \$15.

Metals.—Tin.—300 slabs Foongchai at \$35.40 to \$35.80.

COTTON YARN.

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20	\$62.00 to \$80.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24	102.00 to 106.00
" 22 to 24	105.00 to 110.00
" 28 to 32	110.00 to 115.00
" 38 to 42	119.00 to 127.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	1.40 to 1.55
7 lbs.	1.90 to 2.10
8.4 lbs.	2.15 to 3.10
9 to 10 lbs	3.20 to 4.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.20 to 2.45
58 to 60 "	2.60 to 3.20
64 to 66 "	3.30 to 3.70
Fine	4.00 to 6.50
Pook-folds	2.90 to 5.20
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.62 to 1.28
T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y.	1.45 to 1.60
7 lbs. (32 ")	1.85 to 2.00
8 lbs. (32 ") Mexs.	1.60 to 1.75
7 lbs. (32 ")	2.10 to 2.40
8 to 8½ lbs. (36 in.)	2.35 to 3.10
Drills—English—18 yds. 184 to 188	3.25 to 4.30

PILLY COTTON.

Rep Shirtings—184 to 188	3.00
Brocades—Dyed	3.50 to 4.70
Damasks	0.14 to 0.18
Chintzes—Assorted	0.08 to 0.12
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22 to 0.30
Velveteens—18 in.	0.18 to 0.21

HANDKERCHIEFS—IMITATION SILK.

	per dozen
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	0.60 to 0.95
German	1.00 to 1.15
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 2.70

WOOLLENS.

	per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet	6.50 to 7.80
Assorted	6.60 to 7.90
Camlets—Assorted	14.00 to 30.50
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted	14.00 to 22.00
Orleans—Plain	3.80 to 5.10
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	4.70 to 9.50

METALS.

	per picul.
Iron—Nail Rod	2.90 to 2.95
Square, Flat Round Bar	2.90 to 2.95
Swedish Bar	4.40 to —
Small Round Rod	3.15 to —
Hoop	3.79½ to —
Old Wire Rope	3.00 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	6.30 to —
	per case
Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/28 oz.	25.50 to —
Vivian's, 16/32 oz.	25.00 to —
Elliot's, 16/28 oz.	25.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs	24.00 to —
Tiles	24.00 to —
Tin	36.50 to —
	per box
Tin-Plates	5.35 to —
	per cwt. case
Steel	5.20 to —
	picul per
SUNDRIES	
Quicksilver	112.00 to —
	per box
Window Glass	3.20 to —
	per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil	1.77 to —

SHANGHAI, 10th October.—(From Mr. Geo. W. Noel's report.)—To those acquainted with the ups and downs of this market the fact that a rise of over one per cent. in Exchange during the interval has not been accompanied by a similar decline in prices will speak volumes. The position is undoubtedly very strong, and although it is too soon yet to expect the country to respond to the greatly enhanced value of Imports here, there is no reason to doubt that it will do so in time, favoured as it has been by abundant crops in all directions, there being quite an unusual absence of the reports of famines or floods so generally prevalent at this season of the year. The most active inquiry at present, as was anticipated, is for Tientsin, thanks to which, and the abnormal sparseness of supplies, many Importers are congratulating themselves at getting rid of several parcels of indent goods that had been thrown back on their hands, more especially 8.4 lbs. Shirtings, at prices they scarcely dreamt of realising a few weeks back. The Newchwang market is quieter, the supply sent up being rather in excess of the demand, and the dealers have been glad to resell here, to the Tientsin men, some of their purchases not yet shipped at a small loss. The markets in Szechuen and at the River Ports are not responding as yet to the higher prices here, but deliveries of former purchases, which slackened off somewhat just prior to the settling-day, have quite recovered and leave little to be desired. A good business is being done for Korea, very high prices ruling for the favourite cloths. It is satisfactory, to notice, also, that orders are being placed for certain classes of goods that were formerly supplied from this, the trade in which was stopped during the war, and it was feared would be diverted through Japan in future. Of the transactions that have taken place this week 8.4 lbs. Shirtings compose the bulk, the common to medium makes attracting most attention, but it is difficult to get full particulars, the actual sales being much in excess of the quantity published. White Shirtings are in good demand, and also T-Cloths, but the heavier Cloths are quieter at the moment, especially American makes. The Manchester market is very strong, Cotton being quoted 4½d., but at the close there are indications of a desire springing up to do business, it being hinted that a renewal of the offers refused last week might lead to something being done. The promoters of the three mills lately floated here have, apparently, had more difficulty than was anticipated in securing suitable sites. Satisfactory arrangements have now been made, however, and the buildings will be proceeded with with all despatch, egged on by the rumour that one of the leading Japanese Companies have decided to erect a mill here, to run 20,000 spindles, the necessary machinery for which is said to be now in Tokyo, all ready for shipment. By next May it is confidently expected that all four will be running.

Metals.—(From Mr. Alex. Bielfeld's report) of 11th October.—During the week business in metals has been quieter, the men distrusting the advances asked from home and believing that prices will shortly fall somewhat. In this they are probably mistaken, as evidence comes from many sources that the improvement is only part of a general recovery of home trade from the depressing that has ruled for the last few years. Importers of sundries while not reporting many transactions appear pleased with the way business is proceeding and look hopefully to the near future. Taken altogether the tone is distinctly more hopeful on this side, but natives are likely to

be "caught napping" if they do not soon make their purchases. They may wait for a fall and find themselves obliged to buy at higher rates than those now obtainable. Some few transactions in Lead have taken place at Tls. 5.05. to 5.10 for "spot" cargo. In Nailrod no business has been done this week. All sorts of prices are quoted by importers in hopes of getting offers that may by some chance go through, but makers remain firm for best Belgian brands at about 108/-c.i.f. 1,000 cases, each 100lbs. Tin Plates, at Tls. 4.15 to 4.20 per case "spot," market closing firm. The home markets for Old Iron are firm and advancing and on this side a better tone is prevailing. Clearances are good. Sales are as under:—200 tons London Shoes private terms; 50 tons London Shoes at Tls. 1.70, auction; 200 tons Scrap at 64/-c.i.f.; 100 tons Steel Plate Cuttings, private terms; 480 piculs Angle Iron at Tls. 1.20 per picul, auction; 550 piculs Ship Plates at Tls. 2.25 per picul, auction; 650 piculs Old Plate Angle, &c., &c. at Tls. 1.15 per picul, auction.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 15th October.—Business has ruled comparatively quiet during the week under review and we have nothing of importance to report. Rates continue in most cases steady and the market closes quiet.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai.—With the exception of a few further sales at \$189 cash and at \$196 for Dec. 31st. we have nothing to report; at time of closing shares are on offer at quotation and could probably be obtained at a point lower.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders continuing in demand at the low rates quoted in our last quickly rose with sales at \$74, \$75, and \$76, and close firm with buyers at the latter rate. Unions, after the issue of a splendid report, in which the directors recommend the payment of a dividend of 48 per cent. to shareholders and a return of 31 per cent. to contributors, have ruled in good demand and a fair number of shares changed hands at \$205, \$210, and \$215, market closing with buyers at latter rate. Cantons have continued to be enquired for at \$192½ and no shares being forthcoming the rate has risen without business to \$195 with buyers. Straits have changed hands in fair quantities at \$25 and \$25½, closing with no sellers under \$25½. North Chinas have advanced to Tls. 227½.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have declined to \$260 with sales and Chinas to \$90, both closing quiet.

SHIPPING.—The weakness in Hongkong, Canton, and Macao reported in our last has continued during the week and little or no business has been done, whilst the market has gradually declined to \$35½. Douglas's have ruled quieter; the demand for shares at \$70 having been in every case met by sellers the rate has fallen to \$69 with sales and sellers. Indo-Chinas have continued steady during the week with further sales at \$60 and at time of writing a cash sale is reported at \$61. Some shares have changed hands at \$61½ and \$62 for Dec. 31st. China Manilas ruled in demand during the early part of the week and sales were effected as high as \$71; at time of writing they are obtainable at \$70 and probably at a point lower.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have changed hands in small lots at \$107, \$106, and \$105, closing at \$106 with possible buyers in the North. Luzons have receded a point to \$64.

MINING.—The market has been nearly totally neglected and we have no business to report of any consequence.

DOCKS, WHARFS AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Kowloon Docks on the news of the floating of the *Belgie* jumped from 135 to 140 per cent premium, at which latter and intermediate rates sales were effected; later, however, a reaction set in and the market closes with sellers at 137½ per cent premium. Kowloon Wharfs have ruled steady with further sales at \$48, market closing steady at that rate.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Lands have further improved their position to \$69, after sales at \$67½, \$68, and \$68½, market closing steady. Further sales of Hunphreys Estates are reported at \$10. West Points have ruled weaker at \$22 and \$23, closing at former rate. have nothing further to report under this

MISCELLANEOUS.—Watsons have continued quiet with small sales at \$13 and \$13½, closing at former rate. H. G. Browns have been enquired for at \$4½ to \$5, but we have heard of no sales. Other stocks under this heading call for no remarks.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[sellers]
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	189 p. ct. prem.,
China & Japan, prf.		nominal
Do. ordinary	£1	nominal
Do. deferred	£1	nominal
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$30½
Foun. Shares...	£1	\$30½, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	15s.	\$10
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	\$5½, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$2, buyers
Garmichael & Co.	\$20	\$20, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$106, sales & buyers
Chinese Loan '86 E.	Tls. 250	10 p. ct. prem.
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	\$1
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	\$10, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$21½
Green Island Cement	\$50	\$15, buyers
H. Brick and Cement	\$12½	\$7
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$36
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$110
Hongkong Electric	\$8	\$6½, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$90, sales
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$17, sales
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$97, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$48, sales
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$147, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	137½ p. ct. prem.,
Insurances—		[sales]
Canton	\$50	\$195 buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$90, sales & sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$76, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$260, sales
North-China	£25	Tls. 227½, sales
Straits	\$20	\$25½, buyers
Union	\$25	\$215, sales & buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$117, buyers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$69, sales
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$10, sales
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$17, sellers
West Point Building	\$40	\$22, sales
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$64, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$115, sellers
Jebebu	\$5	\$3, sales & sellers
New Balmoral	\$3	\$3.50, sellers
Punjom	\$4	\$5.75, sellers
Do. (Preference)	\$1	\$1.50, sellers
Raults	13s. 10d.	\$4
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$70, sales & sellers
China Shippers	£5	\$2.10
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$69, sales & sellers
H., Canton and M.	\$20	\$35½, sales
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$61, sales
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$42½
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$13, sales & sellers

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 14th October.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s R. port.)—Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares changed hands locally for cash at 187 to 190 per cent. premium, and for 30th November at 193. Cash shares were placed from Hongkong at 190 per cent. premium. The rate in Hongkong is 190 with sales. The London rate is unchanged at £42.10.0. National Bank of China shares have been sold in Hongkong at \$28 and \$29, and are now wanted at \$30. Bank of China and Japan.—The second call of £0.10.0 per share was due on the 2nd instant. We now quote the ordinary shares as having £1.10.0 paid up. Shipping.—Shanghai Tug Boat shares were sold at Tls. 150. A large business was done in Indo-China S. N. shares at Tls. 43 and Tls. 44 for cash, and at \$60 from Hongkong, at Tls. 42½ and Tls. 44 for October, Tls. 44 for 15th November, Tls. 43½ to Tls. 46 for December, and Tls. 46 for 15th March. China Mutual S. N. shares are wanted, Preference at Tls. 30, and Ordinary with £5 paid up at Tls. 13.50. Douglas Steamship Co.—The Directors recommend the return to shareholders of \$12.50 per share out of capital. This has caused a demand for shares, which have risen to \$70 in Hongkong. Docks.—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock shares are wanted at 133 per cent premium. There is no change reported in Boyds or Farnham's. Marine Insurance.—China Traders have been sold at \$72. North-Chinas have been placed at Tls. 227½. Unions have been in strong demand, and have been sold locally at \$195 to \$200 for cash, and to Hongkong at \$200. There are buyers there at \$202½. Yangtzes have been

placed at \$118 for cash, and \$119 for delivery on 31st December. Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—Shares are quoted \$192 in Hongkong. Straits have been sold at \$25.50 for cash, both locally and from Hongkong, and \$26 for delivery on the 31st current. Fire Insurance.—Hongkongs have been placed to Hongkong at \$261 and locally at \$260. Chinas have changed hands at \$93 to \$94, and are offering. Wharves.—Shanghai and Hongkew shares were sold at Tls. 312½, and Burt's shares at Tls. 55. Cargo Boats.—Shanghais have changed hands at \$190, and Co-operatives at Tls. 167. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Gas shares were sold at Tls. 213, Hongkong Electric shares at \$6.75, Shanghai Waterworks shares at Tls. 190, Perak Sugar Cultivation shares (which have been in strong demand, at Tls. 33 to Tls. 34, and are wanted, China Sugar Refining shares at \$108, Hall & Holtz shares at \$23 to \$22, Shanghai Land Investment shares at Tls. 65 and Tls. 65.50, and Tls. 41 for partially paid up shares, Kowloon Land and Building shares at \$19, Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares at Tls. 50½, Major Brothers shares at Tls. 30, Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares at Tls. 115 cash and Tls. 115 for December, Shanghai Ice shares at Tls. 122½, and Laou Kung Mow Cotton shares at Tls. 22.50. Loans.—Chinese E. Loan Bonds were placed at Tls. 275 plus the accrued interest, and Shanghai Land 6 per cent. Debentures at Tls. 105. Both are wanted.

Quotations are:—

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—190 per cent. prem.
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited.—Nominal.
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, Founders.—Nominal.
National Bank of China, Ltd., A.—none.
National Bank of China, Ltd., B.—\$30.
National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders.—\$105.
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 150 per sh.
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 44 per sh.
China Mutual Steam Nav. Co.—Tls. 50 per sh.
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—T. Tls. 75 per sh.
Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$36 per share.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$70 per share.
Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Tls. 300 per share.
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 180 per share.
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 180 per share.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—133 per cent. premium.
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$72 per sh.
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 227½ p. sh.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$20 per share.
Yangtze Insee. Assocn., Ltd.—\$118 per share.
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$192 per share.
Straits Insurance Co., Limited.—\$25½ per share.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—260 per sh.
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$94 per share.
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 312½ per share.
Birt's Wharf Hiding-curing and Wool-cleaning Company.—Tls. 50 per share.
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$46 per share.
Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, Limited.—Tls. 2.50 per share.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$6 per share.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares—\$1.50 per share.
Jebebu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$3.20 p. sh.
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$4 per share.
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 190 per sh.
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 167 per sh.
Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 213 per share.
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$6.75 per share.
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 190 p. sh.
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 34 p. sh.
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$108 per sh.
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$63 per share.
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$22 per share.
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.—Tls. 65½ per share.
Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$67 per share.
J. Llewellyn & Co., Limited.—\$35 per share.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 50 p. sh.
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 30 per share.
Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 112½ p. sh.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 200 per share.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd., Founder's—Nominal.
Kowloon Land & Building Co., Ltd.—\$19.
Shanghai Ice Company—Tls. 122½ per share.
A. S. Watson Co., Limited.—\$14½ per share.
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—\$1.
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—\$9.50.
Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 20.
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 25.

Laon-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.—Tls. 22½.

China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company Debentures.—Nominal.

Lyceum Theatre Debentures.—Tls. 12.

Chinese Imp. Gov. Loan, 1886, E.—Tls. 275 (a).

Shanghai Municipal Debentures.—Nominal.

Shanghai Land Investment Company Debentures.—Tls. 100 (a).

Shanghai Land Investment Company Debentures.—Tls. 105 (a).

(a) Exclusive of accrued interest.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Benlarig* (str.), *Bombay* (str.), *Glennarn* (str.), *Dardanus* (str.), *Kaisar-i-Hind* (str.), *Formosa* (str.), *Shanghai* (str.).

For BREMEN.—*Prins Heinrich* (str.).

For VANGUARD.—*Empress of China* (str.).

For VICTORIA.—*Tacoma* (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—*City of Rio de Janeiro* (str.).

For NEW YORK.—*P. N. Blanchard*, *Wandering Jew*, *Engelhorn*, *Saint James*, *Celeste Burrill*, *Matterhorn*, *Braemar* (str.).

For AUSTRALIA.—*Menmuir* (str.).

For PORTLAND.—*Mount Lebanon* (str.).

TUESDAY, 15th October.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS. EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/2½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	—
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/3
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/3½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.78
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.84½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.25
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	54
Credits, 60 days' sight	55½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	192½
Bank, on demand	192½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	192½
Bank, on demand	192½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	par.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	3 % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	par.
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	88.89
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	46.50

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 11th October (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—Our market presents quite a lively aspect compared with that of the previous fortnight, a strong enquiry for tonnage for New York having set in. For that port a steady service of steamers has been supplied and each vessel procured more than she required, but the latter part of the period under review rates advanced 5s. for tea, which has to a small extent curtailed shipments. There has also been a fair business done for London and the mails and other regular liners have fared well. Rates of freight are:—From Shanghai to London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 45s.; tea 50s.; Northern Continental ports, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 45s.; tea 50s.; New York, general cargo 40s.; tea 40s.; New York via London, general cargo 50s.; tea 50s.; Boston, general cargo 52s. 6d.; Philadelphia, general cargo 60s. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. London, by Shell Line, general cargo 40s. less 10 per cent.; Hamburg, general cargo 35s. net; New York, general cargo 40s. less 10 per cent.; Havre direct, general cargo 37s. 6d. net; Genoa, tallow 35s.; general cargo 40s. net; Marseilles, tallow 35s.; general cargo 37s. 6d. net. 45s. per ton of 20 cwt. for above three ports. New York, by sail 25s.; New York, by Pacific Lines, tea 1½ cent gold. Coast rates are:—Chinkiang to Canton, 15 candareens, nominal; Moji to Shanghai, \$1.20 per ton coal nominal; Nagasaki to Shanghai, \$1.10 per ton coal nominal. No disengaged vessel in port.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

October—

ARRIVALS.

- 10, Loo Sok, British str., from Bangkok.
- 10, Bygdo, Norw. str., from Foochow.
- 10, Inverlay, British str., from Saigon.
- 10, Deuterios, German str., from Bangkok.
- 10, Leeyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 10, Martha, German str., from Saigon.
- 11, Choysang, British str., from Canton.
- 11, Aglaia, German str., from Hamburg.
- 11, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
- 11, Canton, British str., from Shanghai.
- 11, Energia, British str., from Yokohama.
- 11, Florida, Norw. str., from Barry.
- 11, Miike Maru, Japanese str., from Bombay.
- 11, Foyle, British str., from Canton.
- 11, Hupeh, British str., from Sourabaya.
- 11, Chingtu, British str., from Sydney.
- 11, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
- 12, Cheang Hock Kian, British str., from Singapore.
- 12, M. Bacquehem, Aust. str., from Trieste.
- 12, Sagami Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
- 12, Fushun, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 12, Amigo, German str., from Canton.
- 12, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 12, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 12, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
- 13, Canton, British str., from Shanghai.
- 13, China, German str., from Saigon.
- 13, Hohenzollern, German str., from Y'hama.
- 13, Karlsruhe, German str., from Shanghai.
- 13, Peiyang, German str., from Chinkiang.
- 13, Velocity, British bark, from Honolulu.
- 13, Kweilin, British str., from Chinkiang.
- 13, Phra C. Klao, British str., from Bangkok.
- 14, Glengarry, British str., from London.
- 14, Glenshiel, British str., from Shanghai.
- 14, Strathallan, British str., from Moji.
- 14, Piccola, German str., from Saigon.
- 24, Chelydra, British str., from Calcutta.
- 14, Bengloe, British str., from Moji.
- 14, Chowfa, British str., from Bangkok.
- 14, Continental, Dutch str., from Tientsin.
- 14, Taksang, British str., from Chinkiang.
- 15, Melbourne, French str., from Shanghai.
- 15, Salazie, French str., from Marseilles.
- 15, Conch, British str., from Moji.
- 15, Frammes, Norw. str., from Bangkok.
- 15, Hector, British str., from Liverpool.
- 15, Oanfa, British str., from Glasgow.
- 15, Java, British str., from London.
- 15, Nanyang, British str., from Chinkiang.

October—

DEPARTURES.

- 10, Activ, Danish str., for Hoihow.
- 10, Arratoon Apar, British str., for Calcutta.
- 10, Chihli, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Dante, Dutch str., for Amoy.
- 10, Frej, Danish str., for Amoy.
- 10, Frigga, German str., for Hamburg.
- 10, Lennox, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, M. Jeben, German str., for N'chwang.
- 10, Namoa, British str., for Coast Ports.
- 10, Rosetta, British str., for Europe.
- 11, Bygdo, Norw. str., for Newchwang.
- 11, Changsha, British str., for Australia.
- 11, Machew, British str., for Bangkok.
- 11, Memnon, British str., for Kukat.
- 11, Oscarshal, Norw. str., for Bangkok.
- 11, Ravenna, British str., for Yokohama.
- 12, Leeyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Choysang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Foyle, British str., for Port Wallut.
- 13, Benvenue, British str., for Saigon.
- 13, Boynton, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
- 13, Formosa, British str., for Tamsui.
- 13, Phra C. C. Klao, British str., for Swatow.
- 13, Taicheong, German str., for Swatow.
- 13, Lothair, Italian bark, for Callao.
- 13, St. Louis, French str., for Saigon.
- 13, Marquis Bacquehem, Aust. str., for S'hai.
- 14, Chingtu, British str., for Shanghai.
- 14, Peiyang, German str., for Canton.
- 14, Aglaia, German str., for Yokohama.
- 14, Canton, British str., for Canton.
- 14, Cheang H. Kian, British str., for Amoy.
- 14, Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 14, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 14, Kweilin, British str., for Canton.
- 14, Taiyuan, British str., for Yokohama.

- 15, Amigo, German str., for Chefoo.
- 15, Canton, British str., for Sydney.
- 15, Cromarty, British str., for Amoy.
- 15, Glengarry, British str., for Shanghai.
- 15, Deuterios, German str., for Bangkok.
- 15, Glenshiel, British str., for London.
- 15, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
- 15, TAKSANG, British str., for Canton.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Bygdo*, steamer, from Tamsui.—Mr. Hannrood.

Per *Formosa*, str., from Coast Ports.—Messrs. Silbermann and Wentzel and 101 Chinese.

Per *Chingtu*, str., from Australia.—Mrs. Harder and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Benzig, Mr. Salter.

Per *Haitan*, str., from Coast Ports.—Mr. and Mrs. Siemssen and six children, Messrs. Ollia, Moller, Haesloop, and Mrs. Seymour.

Per *Canton*, str., from Swatow.—Rev. J. G. Soercher.

Per *Karlsruhe*, str., from Shanghai.—Major Sankey, Messrs. Henry Bertram, F. Clayson, H. v. Rucker, Ph. Lirder and family, H. E. Hobson, Wm. Cutley, J. Jackmann and family, P. Wittkowski, W. Slack, Turnauer, and C. Smith, Misses Salm, Oskany, and Wells.

Per *Hohenzollern*, str., from Nagasaki.—Mr. and Mrs. Brown, Professor Koebeler, Messrs. W. Scanthburg, H. Holmes, Edmond, Fischer, Ehring, Geo. Kirkpatrick, Capt. Jesselsen, Miss Borbein.

Per *Glenshiel*, str., from Shanghai, &c.—Mr. Broas.

Per *Glengarry*, steamer, from London, &c.—Mrs. Stanney and 128 Chinese.

Per *Chelydra*, str., from Calcutta, &c.—Col. Thomas, Mr. Gunpotts.

Per *Sunda*, str., from London for Kobe.—Col. and Mrs. Rochfort, and Miss Daunt. For Yokohama.—Mr. Hunt. For Shanghai.—Dr. Cooper.

DEPARTED.

Per *Hankow*, str., for Amoy.—Mr. Schneekloth. For Foochow.—Comdr. Sparkes, R.N.; Sub-Lieut. Atlay, R.N., Messrs. George Pane and George Mahey. For Kobe.—Mr. Alfred Schirmer. For Yokohama.—Mrs. Kimble. For Victoria, B.C.—Mrs. Lee Sze, Ho Sze, Misses An Hing, Lan Hing, Yu Kee, and Master Chong Sum.

Per *Zafiro*, str., for Manila.—Mr. Findill.

Per *Namoa*, str., for Swatow.—Rev. and Mrs. Ashmore, Messrs. Tung Kin Lam, Tung Sow Ya, Tin Pai, Ya Pai, Mrs. and Miss Tung. For Amoy.—Mr. and Mrs. Yan Ning Su.

Per *Rosetta*, str., from Hongkong for London.—Mrs. Pope and child, Comdr. Selby Lilburn, B.N., Messrs. H. J. Lock, R.N., Robt. Spry, R.N., and W. G. Poland. For Brindisi.—Mr. F. R. Donisthorpe, Miss Donisthorpe. For Ismailia.—Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Dudley. For Yokohama for London.—Mr. F. B. Dick, Fleet-Surg. J. W. Hawton, R.N. From Shanghai for Bombay.—Mr. M. J. Moses. For London.—Lieut. Wills, R.N., Dr. and Mrs. Wilson and 3 children, and Mr. J. W. Hulse.

Per *Ravenna*, str., from Hongkong for Nagasaki.—Messrs. Fred. W. Smith and E. R. Burdon. For Kobe.—Messrs. Leaf, Nissen, and Jaito. For Yokohama.—Chan Ah Wan. For Nagasaki from Singapore.—Mr. and Mrs. Neijts.

Per *Arratoon Apar*, str., for Singapore, &c.—Messrs. G. J. R. Smith, R. J. Carruthers, C. Swinhoe, T. Waite, J. M. G. Manuk, Patill, H. Waylen, Lieut. Anderson, and Mrs. Bassett.

Per *Memnon*, str., for Sandakan.—Colonel Molloy, R.E.

Per *Changsha*, str., for Sydney.—Mr. David Syme. For Brisbane.—Mr. Cecil Fabris.

Per *Choysang*, str., for Shanghai.—Mr. S. L. Darby.

Per *Chingtu*, str., for Shanghai.—Mr. Herbert Smith, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. C. Penzig, and Mr. Harder and 2 children.